

21 Strains Over 20% THC

HIGHTIMES

June 4/9

**Growing
Granddaddy
Purp**

**Quicker
Cloning**

**LA Cup
Winners**

**HEAD CHEESE
THC ANALYSIS:
24.79%**

**Taking Traveler
Rick Steves**

**The Truth
About Adderall**

The

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HIGH TIMES JUNE



“Running a collective, at least in California, remains shrouded in a legal gray area, but that doesn’t stop Grand Daddy Purp’s strategic team from planning a far different future.”

—The Purps Patrol, page 64

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Culled from lab results for all five High Times Cannabis Cups held in 2012, this cannabis compendium features only those strains that managed to exceed the coveted 20% THC threshold to achieve immortality in our Strongest Strains archive. *By Nico Escondido*

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Learn the secrets of building up a huge root mass early to increase yields and grow healthy, hardy pot plants. *By Baron Wasteland*

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Ken Estes of the Grand Daddy Purp Collective gets his operation ready to compete with Big Tobacco, Wall Street, corporate America and a new breed of high-flying pot entrepreneurs. *By David Bienenstock*

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In February, the Second Annual High Times Medical Cannabis Cup took place in San Bernardino and proved once again that California is the nation’s capital of cannabis commerce.

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90 High Times Interview: Rick Steves

To celebrate Washington’s legalization, nationally renowned PBS and NPR travel guru Rick Steves invited *High Times* to spend an afternoon chatting in his living room—alongside an ounce of legal cannabis. *By David Bienenstock*



2013



The Med+ainer

HIGH TIMES DIGITAL



Saki Bomb explodes on the glass scene.

► Glass Artist of the Month

Saki Bomb may be the only Japanese female pipe maker in the world! Hailing from the countryside in Japan, Saki Bomb found pipe making in 2006 in Southern California, five years after arriving in the States. She was introduced to glass pipes by experiencing simple, everyday life in Southern California. She always loved to smoke and attributes her motivation to become a glassblowing artist to her affinity for cannabis. She was fortunate to meet some of the industry's top glassblowers. They mentored her, and she rapidly picked up techniques and developed her skills. As Saki Bomb became involved with pipe making, she looked around and realized that there was a distinct lack of female presence on the scene. She purposely focused her work on a more feminine style that would appeal more to the female smoker.

Saki Bomb's work always ignites lively discussion. Her ability to convey a whimsical emotion through glass pipes appeals to every demographic. Though she refrains from calling herself an "artist," her pieces possess a consistently clever narrative.

The glass industry also allows Saki Bomb to work with friends. She especially enjoys creating functional objects that not only appeal to her, but that she can also use. She also admits, "The best thing about being a pipe maker is that I can replace and fix my pieces." Check out her work at hightimes.com/glass.

► Video Contest

Are you a filmmaker? Then enter our contest. Submit a video that expresses your love of cannabis. It can be fiction, documentary, fantasy—whatever! [Get your contest rules at hightimes.com/videocontest](http://hightimes.com/videocontest).

► News Hit

Find out what's happening in our world right now! Check out our newest *High Times* podcast. Host Mike Hughes brings you top news stories from the cannabis scene. [Listen at hightimes.com/newshit](http://hightimes.com/newshit).



Miss June 2013

NAME: **Kamille**
 PROFILE: **eyecandy88**
 AGE: **23**
 CITY: **Vancouver, BC, Canada**
 OCCUPATION: **Student, artist**

To enter or rate contestants, go to misshightimes.com. You must be 18 years or older to enter.

POT POLL

What's Your Stoner Activity?

"On a run-of-the-mill, uneventful day, what do you normally do after getting high?" Our recent poll question received over 1,700 answers. Several respondents complained that there was no choice for stoners who like to get creative. Sorry about that. Regardless, the majority of you said that watching TV, playing video games and Web surfing please you most. We say: "Creativity comes in all forms!" Check out our new poll, which asks when you first tried pot, at hightimes.com/polls.

- Watch TV...20%**
- Play Video Games...20%**
- Surf the Web...15%**
- Go Outdoors and Play...13%**
- Do Chores/Housework...10%**
- Get Cuddly With Your Sweetheart...7%**
- Work Out...6%**
- Do Errands...3%**
- Read...3%**
- Sleep...3%**



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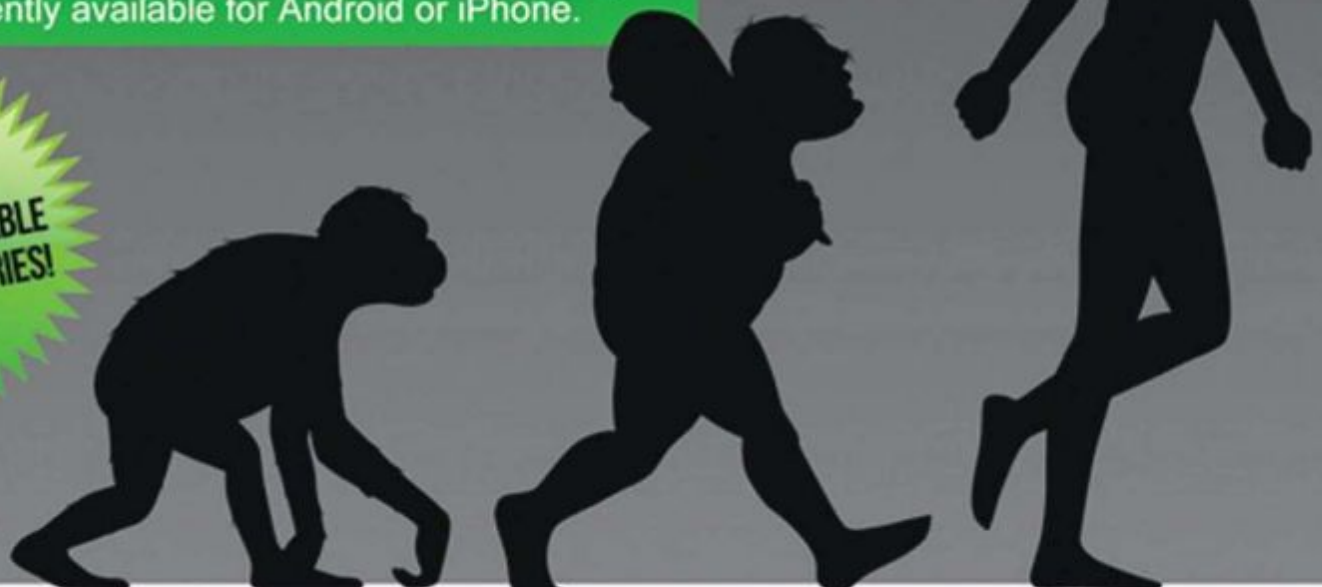
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Earth's Strongest Strains and You

What's become known simply as "The List" has grown immensely in popularity since its debut this time last year. "Earth's Strongest Strains" has been the hottest story on our website for months now, creating such a buzz—and perhaps even a little controversy—that it has now become a perennial feature in the magazine and a reference point for fine-cannabis connoisseurs around the world.

Indeed, the "Earth's Strongest Strains" series is an offshoot of our Cannabis Cup competitions, now held multiple times a year in the United States and Europe, making it a truly international celebration of superior genetics, good horticulture and marijuana in general. More than that, "The List" is a testament to the evolution of our Cup competitions and the new judging and scoring systems that have been implemented over the past couple of years.

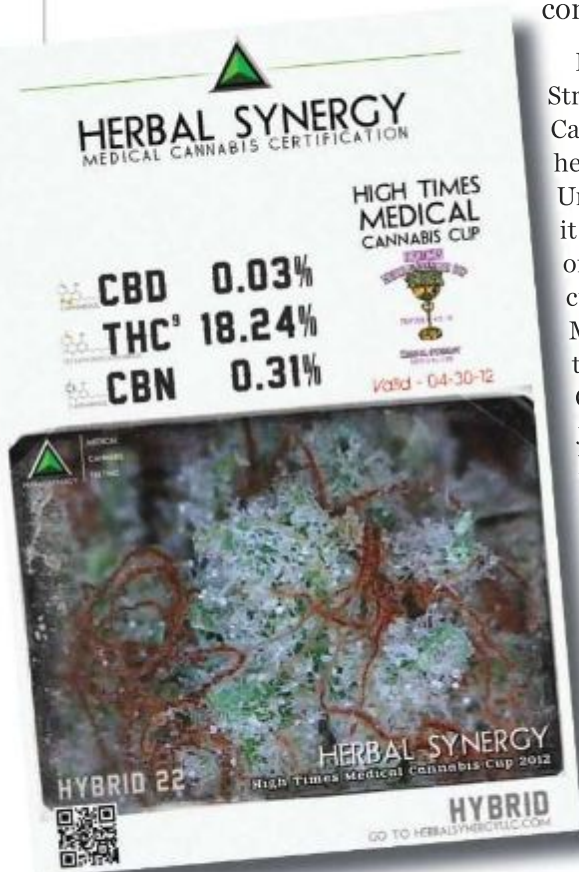
Taking advantage of technological advances, we now employ the best canna-labs the world has to offer as part of the judging system for our various Cups. And we use these results to compile the "Earth's Strongest Strains" list and scientifically determine which strains are, in fact, the most potent on the planet.

We've come a long way for sure, amigos, but we're not

there yet! There is still so much we need to unravel regarding the mysteries of this plant. One day soon, we'll be incorporating terpenoid analysis into our scoring system, and at some future point, we'll know exactly how these terpenes work in conjunction with THC, CBD and the many other cannabinoids to affect a strain's overall high and potency. One day, we'll be able to measure exactly how well a flower was grown using detailed lab analysis, and we'll even be able to genetically engineer—or at least modify—the exact markers of genotypes to produce an absolutely perfect bud. Then again, if you're a true lover of cannabis, you probably already know that the perfect bud is whichever one you happen to be smoking!

Enjoy this year's edition of "The List," and remember: Stay united, keep pushing forward, and never, *ever* put down that phatty!

Nico Escondido
Cultivation Editor



Cannabis Cup lab report from Herbal Synergy, Denver.

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Wake Up, Stoners!

Mike Males probably needs another research assistant! Especially if he's serious about his comment in your article "Season of Green" (March 2013), in which he states: "What is it about marijuana that inspires such dramatically increased policing and severe criminal-justice discrimination?" Well, to that point:

1. As Terence McKenna would have so eloquently pointed out, he who controls the parameters of consciousness controls the perception of reality! Just how many marijuana-using young people are likely to run out and join the Hitler Youth, or some sanitized American version of such? Most people using weed would likely prefer a trip to Baskin-Robbins to a tour in Afghanistan!

2. Incarceration is one of the fastest-growing markets in our system of "disaster capitalism." Think of all the private-prison parasites out there building prisons as fast as they can for fun and profit. And who you gonna put in them? You guessed it! The innocent people you make into criminals simply by passing a "law." This practice goes way back: The great Old Testament prophet Isaiah condemned those "who make a man an offender by a word, and lay a snare for him who reproves in the gate, and turn aside the just by empty words" (Isaiah 29:21). These are the ones who enjoy filling their pockets with the lucre of other people's pain and sorrow (not forgetting that cheap \$1-to-\$2-an-hour prison-labor pool!).

3. They need to keep "drugs" illegal so they can finance "black ops" campaigns and further enslave the masses for their own profit—and to satisfy their power hunger—with the hard-earned dollars of the masses themselves. They are the personification of evil!

4. They don't want people to have access to an herb that has the proven potential to put many of the drug pushers of Big Pharma out of business. How many people will Big Pharma be allowed to slowly murder or kill outright with their poisonous drugs before the masses awake and call for their overthrow? The time is close, and they are running out of options.

Terry

High Times for My Phone?

I just wanted to suggest a mobile app for Android (and, yes, for the iPhone also—boo!).

David

Hey, David, you can currently get *High Times* on Zinio, and they have an app for Androids, iPhones and BlackBerries.



As Terence McKenna would have so eloquently pointed out, he who controls the parameters of consciousness controls the perception of reality!

Who Are the Real Drug Dealers?

Once upon a time, in a tropical land known as Florida, there was a highly confused young girl. That girl was me. I started my journey in an institution at the tender age of 13, where I was diagnosed with manic-depressive disorder. (Later it was given the fluffy name "bipolar.") I spent about 30 days in rehab, where I was given Zoloft. It was meant to "fix" the hurt I had endured. It was decades later that I understood it is okay to hurt. Feeling sad is a normal part of life.

While in this "hospital," I learned all sorts of new criminal and sexual ideas from the influence of my fellow patients. I went from a girl who smoked pot and occasionally did LSD to a full-fledged drug and sex addict. From there I turned into a *homeless* hardcore drug addict, but with intermittent readmissions to the "hospital," each time leaving it with a stronger designer drug courtesy of Big Pharma. And each time the results were more disastrous than the last. Here is the thing about psychiatric medications: They have all sorts of appalling side effects, ranging from nausea to hives to periods of manic, soaring thoughts to involuntary muscle movements (sometimes permanent), among others. All of the traits that Big Pharma assures you its wonder drugs will stop, they will sometimes

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enhance and most assuredly add to the patient's list of problems.

At one point, I spent three days in a coma. Shortly after I came home, my friend said to me: "Why don't you just smoke?" (meaning marijuana). But I was afraid to smoke pot. Instead, I suffered alone with my thoughts. I grew to the point where I struggled to speak to other people. Suicide was a constant thought: Just be done with it. This went on for maybe a year.

Then I ran into an old friend. We went back to her house and smoked pot. All of a sudden, the chains that had held me so tightly began to loosen. The fear was gone. The ability to sit, to talk, even to laugh, rushed to the surface—along with the ability to just *be still*. That stillness was/is something you truly can't appreciate until you've lost that ability. No more fidgeting, wiggling or tapping—I was able to be still and enjoy my surroundings. The

screaming ladies in my head were quiet for once. My own inner voice could be heard.

Right then and there, I knew what I had to do: I was going to become a "criminal" to save my life. It has been several years since the day that I was freed. But now I have a new fear: the fear of being arrested and having my children taken from me. I don't want to be a criminal. I don't want to be afraid that smoking a beneficial plant that grows in nature will put me in a cage. I fear returning to the pills that kept me sick. With marijuana, life is so much easier for me: I can relax, play outside, go to the grocery store and speak to other people. I can sleep through the night. I can be human, a wife and a mother.

If a plant can cure me, should I be locked in a cell for using it? A plant that helps so many and has never killed a single person is considered to have no medicinal value, yet Big Pharma puts out "medicine" with side effects that can kill you, and it's readily available—even pushed with force—to the world.

I am begging everyone who reads this to please contact your local politicians and urge them to support legalizing marijuana. Write your own letter! Together, we can heal our nation.

Anonymous



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SURF'S UP! At the Medical Cannabis Cup in San Bernardino, CA, Redman's spirits were so high that he dove into a sea of stoners and crowd-surfed for a full 10 minutes! Later, The Game and Red shared a joint onstage and rapped: "I Wanna Get Fucked Up." Read all about the Cup on page 77. *Photo by Dan Skye*

**Contact
High**



**Contact
High**

THE BUSINESS OF PURPLE For Ken Estes, growing Granddaddy Purp is not a hobby or a way to make cash on the side, but a full-fledged, legal business. The demand for this signature strain has made the Granddaddy Purp Collective one of the premier medical providers in California. With legalization on the California ballot this November, Estes looks to the future. Page 64. *Photo by Lochfoot*





Contact High

BEHOLD SOCAL'S FINEST NUGGETS Take a closer look at the winners of the marijuana flower categories at the High Times Los Angeles (San Bernadoobie) Medical Cannabis Cup. These shiny strains rose above all the others to win top honors for visual aesthetics, scent, flavor, burnability and, of course, potency. *Photos by Lochfoot*

BEST BOOTH

- 1 - Cali Connection
- 2 - TGA Seeds
- 3 - Alpha Medic

BEST PRODUCT

- 1 - VapeXhale
- 2 - Pulse Glass
- 3 - Cloud Vape

BEST GLASS

- 1 - Pure Glass
- 2 - TIE
Bumblebee Torchtube by Banjo to Hitman Glass
Pulse Glass

BEST EDIBLE

- 1 - Blackberry Dark Chocolate Bar by River City Phoenix/ Kiva Confections
- 2 - Sweet Stone Gummy Bears by Magnolia Wellness
- 3 - Strawberry Lemonade by Buds and Roses/ The Venice Cookie Company

CBD AWARD (For highest level of CBD)
Harlequin Shatter by Magnolia Wellness

BEST CONCENTRATE

- 1 - Honey B OG Nectar by Green Coast Deliveries
- 2 - The Wheezy by IECC

3 - Tan-G Shatter by Fresh Off the Bud Extractions

BEST HASH

- 1 - Lemon OG Solvent-less Wax BAMF Extractions by Buds and Roses
- 2 - Tangerine OG Solvent-less Wax by Greenest Green LA/ Essential Extracts
- 3 - Dairy Queen Solvent-Free Wax by "The Real" Medical Collective.

BEST HYBRID

- 1 - Girl Scout Cookies by Life Is Good
- 2 - Veganic Tahoe OG by Buds and Roses
- 3 - Banana OG by Cool Calm Collective

BEST INDICA

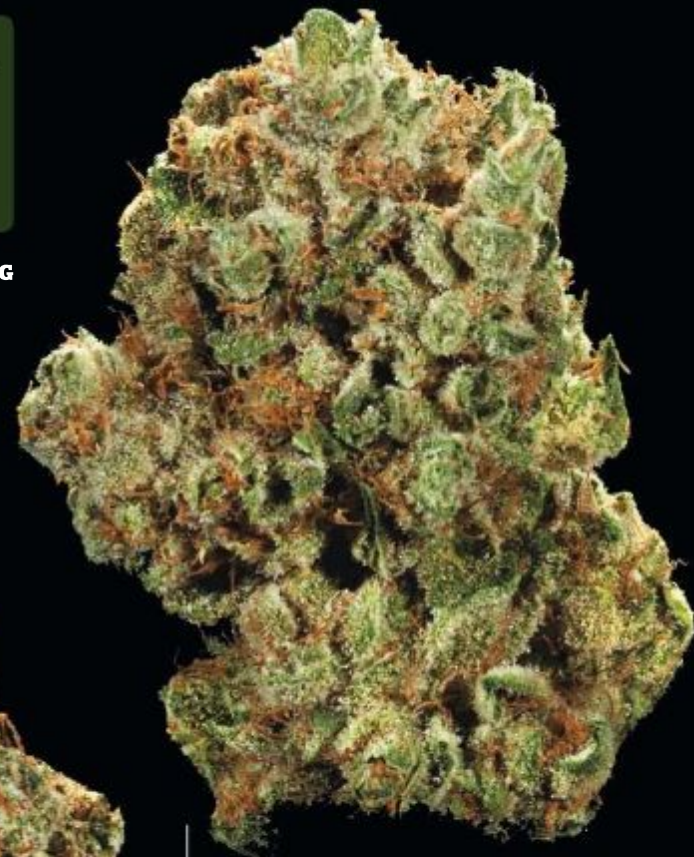
- 1 - Godfather OG by Alpha Medic
- 2 - OG Eddy Lepp by 3rd Gen Family
- 3 - Grimace OG by Archive Seedbank

BEST SATIVA

- 1 - Tanj by Reserva Privada
- 2 - Veganic Ghost Train Haze #1 by Buds and Roses
- 3 - Red Congolese by Magnolia Wellness

VEGANIC TAHOE OG

(Buds and Roses)



BANANA OG

(Cool Calm Collective)



GIRL SCOUT COOKIES

(Life Is Good)



GRIMACE OG

(Archive Seedbank)

TANJ

(Reserva Privada)



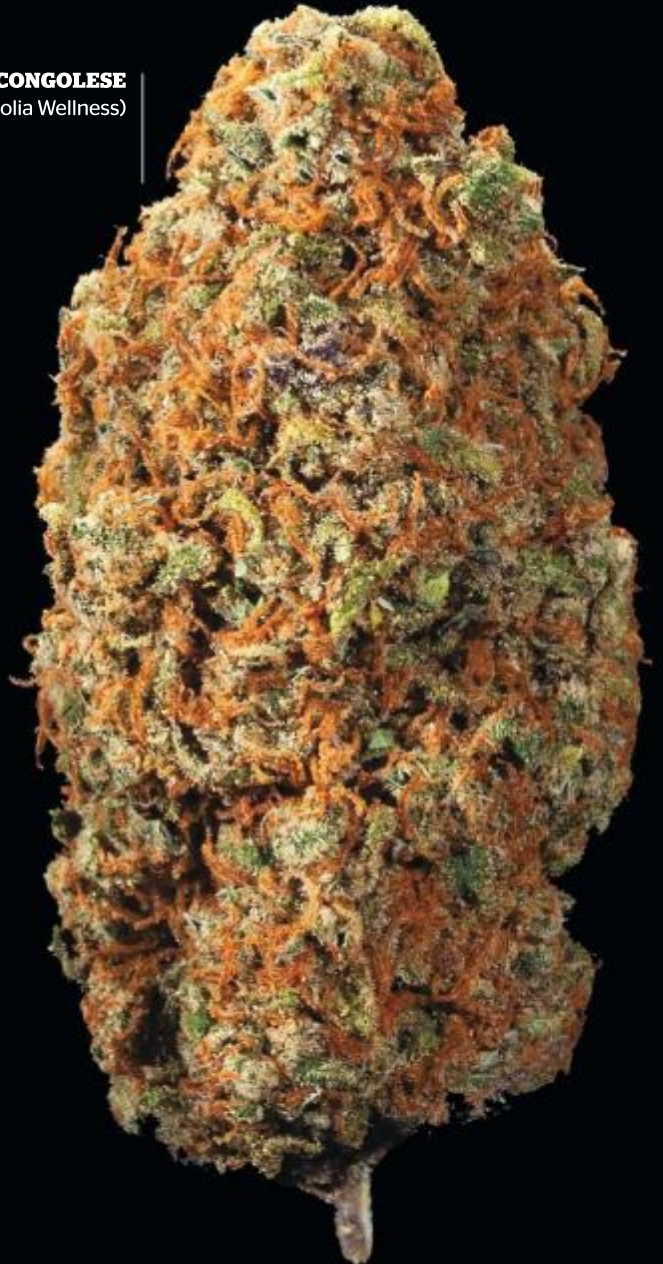
GODFATHER OG
(Alpha Medic)



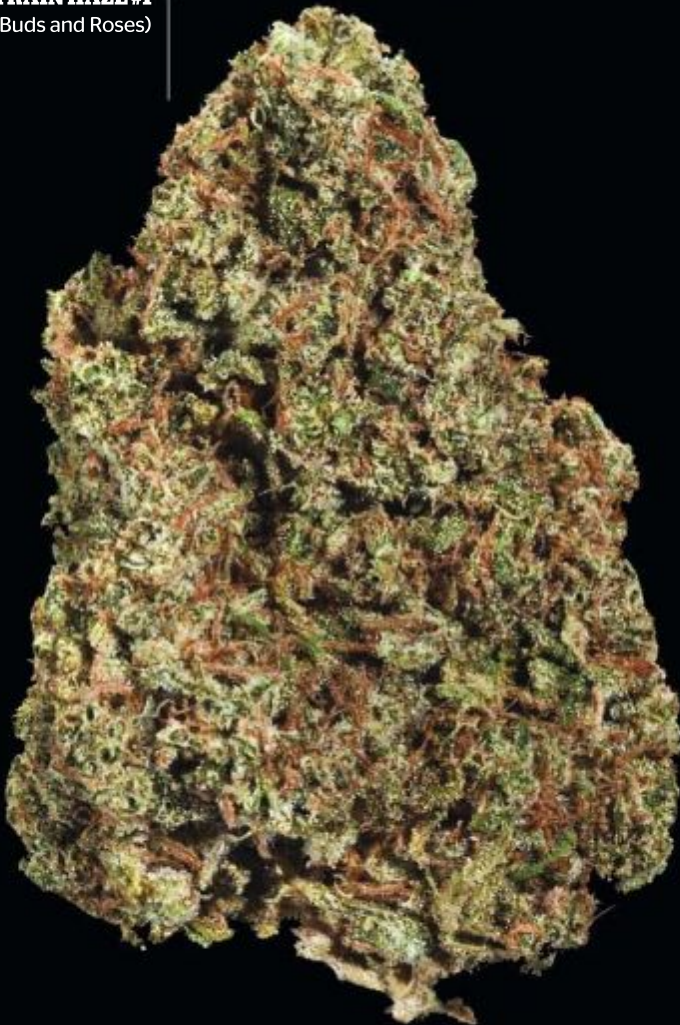
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Food

A Smokin' Smoothie

Go bananas with this nutritious treat. p.34



José Huizar's control of dispensaries has been ham-fisted and backward.



Council of Dunces

The Los Angeles City Council has demonstrated hypocrisy, buffoonery and political cowardice in its attempts to deal with medical marijuana.

In the first decade of the medical cannabis era, the Los Angeles City Council didn't pay much attention to the dispensary issue—as late as 2005, there were still only four documented dispensaries on the ground in the nation's second-largest metropolis. But two years later, there were 182 registered dispensaries in LA, and the City Council was obliged to take up the issue. However, instead of providing protections and sensible regulations for a burgeoning industry that was creating new jobs and tax revenues during the worst economic conditions since the Great Depression, the Council imposed an ill-advised moratorium that has pitted the city's dispensaries against each other.

There has always been a measure of sympathy expressed for medical pot patients by certain City Council

members, such as Paul Koretz (D-5th District) and Bill Rosendahl (D-11th, which includes dispensary-laden Venice). But a majority of the Council, led by the reactionary José Huizar (D-14th), has been far less sympathetic to the need for dispensaries.

As a result, the Council passed its "interim control ordinance" (ICO) in 2007, the now-infamous dispensary moratorium that established September 14, 2007, as the cutoff date, with the 182 dispensaries that had registered with the city prior to that time being allowed to remain open. However, the ICO proved toothless, as new dispensary owners quickly discovered a loophole: Because the Council had failed to rule on the status of their applications, these dispensaries could claim a "hardship exemption" that prevented the city from prosecuting them. By 2009, 508

dispensaries had claimed the exemption and were up and running.

Not only did the ordinance fail to prevent the proliferation of pot shops in LA, but it ended up pitting the original 182 dispensaries (referred to as the "pre-ICOs") against the hundreds of newer stores ("post-ICOs") that began providing medicine after the Council's moratorium. The division created by the Council left both sides at odds and unable to compromise on mutually beneficial regulations.

For years, the Council, led by Huizar, attempted to control the spread of dispensaries in a number of ham-fisted and backward ways. The issue came to a head in July 2012, when the Council voted unanimously (14-0) to ban all registered dispensaries in the city, even as 10 of its members voted in favor of another ordinance to regulate them. This was a prime example of the Council attempting to placate the anti-pot forces (primarily law enforcement and city officials) while simultaneously appeasing the pro-medical-cannabis majority among its constituents.

The ban would have eliminated all of the city's dispensaries but would also have allowed legal pot patients to form three-person collectives and grow their own medicine. The latter provision was termed the "gentle ban," which Don Duncan of Americans for Safe Access blasted as "a cynical, face-saving measure giving nothing back in return."

As the ban took effect in July 2012, another tantalizing twist in the drama occurred, when pro-dispensary Councilman Bill Rosendahl publicly revealed that he was a legal medical pot patient, using the herb to treat neuropathy and pelvic cancer. According to Duncan, this admission "made it difficult for his colleagues to speak out against medical cannabis ... medical marijuana isn't a serious issue until it touches someone you know and love," and after Rosendahl's admission, "the Council wasn't immune to it."

Interestingly, the elected official who was behind the flawed "gentle ban," as

« well as the prime mover behind the Council's anti-medical-pot agenda, is LA City Attorney Carmen "Nuch" Trutanich. Yet despite repeatedly advising the Council to enact the ban—and despite wielding a disproportionate amount of influence on the issue, even though he's not a Council member—Trutanich's involvement has been inexplicably underreported.

Upon assuming office after a runoff election in 2009, Trutanich almost immediately declared his opposition to the existence of dispensaries, convincing the Council to drop a regulation ordinance it had been working on in cooperation with dispensary advocates. (He also argued, unsuccessfully, that dispensaries should be prohibited from accepting cash.) But Nuch's hardline anti-pot advocacy had an unexpected result: Almost immediately after the Council's 2012 ban passed, the LA medical marijuana community sprang into action, raising funds and collecting enough signatures to place a referendum on the March 2013 ballot overturning the ban. Rather than face the costs of such a measure and the political embarrassment involved, the Council rescinded its ban a mere three months later.

Medical marijuana advocates opined that the Council's members (backed by Trutanich) had decided to drop the ban

to appease their constituents, while saving face with the anti-pot establishment by allowing the federal government to do their dirty work for them, as the Feds' dispensary crackdown continued via forfeiture lawsuits and raids. (The DEA raided three more LA dispensaries in separate districts on January 9.)

As we go to press, it appears the solution will once again arrive at the ballot box, with three competing measures

“Medical marijuana isn't a serious issue until it touches someone you know and love.”

slated to appear before voters in May 2013. The opposing dispensary factions have sponsored two of those measures, with one allowing only pre-ICOs (the original dispensaries) to remain in operation and not raising taxes, and the other permitting any dispensary (including post-ICOs) to stay open if it meets certain requirements. The latter measure would raise pot taxes from \$50 to \$60 for every \$1,000 in sales.

Predictably, however, the Council declined to endorse either proposal and

on February 5 gave final approval to its own ballot referendum. The City's initiative is something of a compromise between the pre- and post-ICO measures as it would only allow pre-ICO dispensaries to remain in operation and it would raise the tax on marijuana sales. The initiative also sets a legally required distance from schools and churches that dispensaries must observe.

While all three proposals will appear on the May ballot, the groups behind the pre-ICO measure – including the Greater Los Angeles Collective Alliance and Americans for Safe Access LA – announced they will now support the City's proposal as it has the best chance of passing.

City Attorney Trutanich threw his support behind the City's proposal prior to his March 5 bid for reelection. However, it was not enough to fend off opponent Mike Feuer who received 44 percent of the vote to Trutanich's 30 percent. The two will now face each other May 21.

It remains to be seen whether the support of medical cannabis advocacy groups will sway voters in the direction of the City's proposal—but either way, it is clear that medical marijuana dispensaries are here to stay, despite the best (or worst) efforts of the Los Angeles City Council. ✨

HIGH FIVE

Totally Sick Medicine

Cannabis continues to demonstrate its effectiveness in treating all kinds of ailments.



Tourette Syndrome
This neuropsychiatric disorder affects up to 4 percent of all children. For those afflicted, it's a nightmare ordeal of embarrassing and involuntary motor and verbal tics. A 2003 study found that patients receiving THC therapy for six weeks experienced a significant reduction in tics. The plant's cannabinoids modulate the behavior of the pertinent neurotransmitters in the brain.



Mad Cow Disease
Infected cow meat can cause humans to be fatally stricken with "variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease" (vCJD). The brain becomes sponge-like and full of holes. In 2007, researchers found that the nonpsychoactive compound cannabidiol (CBD) may prevent "mad cow disease" by inhibiting the formation of infectious proteins called prions. This result has been seen in infected mice and sheep.



Sleep Apnea
The sleep disorder associated with snoring can actually lead to premature death. A 2002 study found that THC and the endocannabinoid oleamide significantly suppressed sleep apnea in rats by blocking serotonin induction as well as stabilizing respiration during sleep. And, needless to say, it's been known for at least a few eons that pot improves the quality of sleep for most people.



Herpes Simplex
This lifelong and unsightly viral disease may be managed by medical marijuana. A 2004 University of South Florida in vitro study found that small doses of concentrated THC inhibited the herpes virus in tissue cultures, specifically by targeting the gene labeled ORF 50—thus preventing viral replication, by which the virus lives on in the cells of its host.



Social Anxiety Disorder
In a study from the University of São Paulo (Brazil) published in 2011, researchers tested the use of CBD on a dozen patients afflicted by social anxiety disorder and found that it reduced their anxiety, cognitive impairment and discomfort in speech performance when compared with a control group that received only a placebo.



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The Stoner Cough

"If you don't cough, you don't get off." It's a stoner axiom as old as roach clips, one that implies that coughing after inhaling actually increases the high a person experiences. Informal online surveys and anecdotal accounts show that roughly four out of five smokers believe that experiencing a strong cough enhances your hit. But is it true?

Some folks postulate that coughing dilates the bronchioles of the lungs, thereby speeding the absorption of inhaled THC into the bloodstream. However, cannabis researcher Dr. Robert Melamede notes that no clinical studies have been done on the subject. He subscribes to the other popular theory: that coughing creates a dizzying "head rush" effect similar to standing up too quickly. (Interestingly, Dr. Melamede says he no longer smokes these days and consumes only edibles, yet finds that his high is still magnified when he coughs—on edibles alone.)

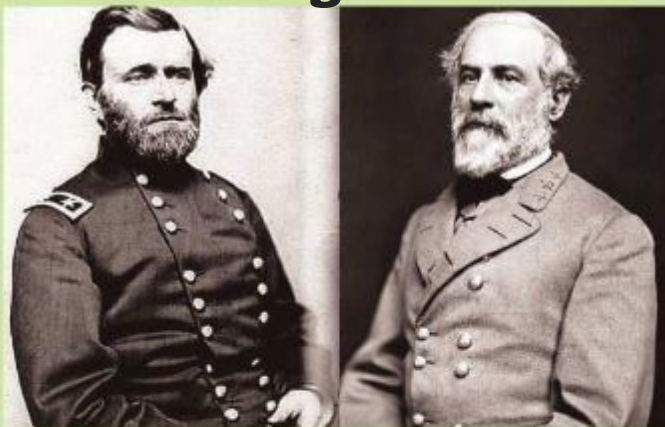
Then again, maybe the effect is simply due to the fact that the more smoke you inhale, the stoned-er you get (because more THC is entering your body), and that you're more apt to cough because of it.



Pot Gardens Get Greener

As solar energy becomes more popular, it was inevitable that pioneering cannabis cultivators would begin to "go green to grow green" by utilizing solar power. An added perk is that solar energy allows growers to stay off the grid and bypass detection by utility companies monitoring spikes in electrical usage. For the past few years, the focus has been on domestic cultivators in the western US turning to solar. But as reported in the *Daily Mail*, the first known instance of a grower using solar power took place in the United Kingdom, following the bust of a cultivation warehouse in the tiny village of Small Dole. Three people were arrested after the bobbies discovered an estimated 500 plants and, unexpectedly, 115 solar panels on the warehouse roof providing the energy to light them—a rather ambitious effort for pot cultivators in foggy olde England. We trust the authorities will hand down reduced sentences to those growers for maintaining an eco-friendly garden.

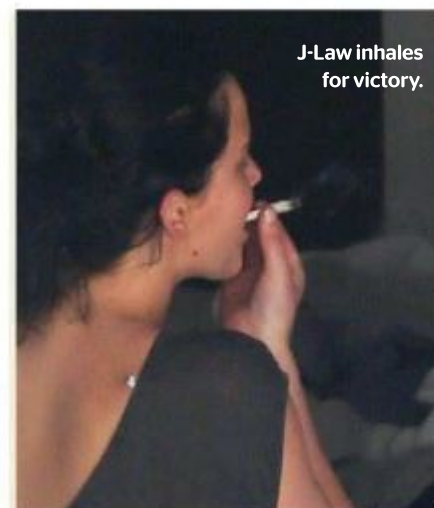
Civil War High Command



In what has to be one of the first celebrity endorsements—and definitely one of the first celebrity *marijuana* endorsements—in US history, cannabis historian Chris Bennett has unearthed an ad from the early 1860s for cannabis edibles (branded back then as "Hasheesh Candy") featuring testimonials from the famed Civil War generals Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee.

According to the ad, Union General (and future president) Grant declared that Hasheesh Candy "is of great value for the wounded and feeble, and that it is harmless," while Confederate General Lee proclaims: "I wish it was in my power to place a dollar box of the Hasheesh Candy in the pocket of every Confederate soldier, because I am convinced it speedily relieves debility, fatigue and suffering."

Bennett says the ad appeared in a journal called *The Good Samaritan and Domestic Physician*, which was actually just a pamphlet distributed by one Dr. E. Andrews to promote his Hasheesh Candy. The ads were also featured in Sears Roebuck catalogs and listed dozens of maladies that the hash candy was effective in treating.



J-Law inhales for victory.

Lawrence Tokes {Yawn}

Normally when you hear the phrase "Oscar buzz," it means that the media is talking about possible Academy Award nominations for a movie star. From the moment Jennifer Lawrence appears in *Silver Linings Playbook*, she lights up the screen. Oscar buzz for the flick was immediate and Lawrence ended up in winning a well deserved Oscar for Best Actress. A week later, she created a new Oscar buzz when she was she was snapped puffing a joint while in Hawaii. The best thing about the story? Everybody in the world responded with a collective "So what?"



Attention, K-Mart Stoners

Just a couple of months after Washington State legalized recreational marijuana, the retail discount chain K-Mart added pot to its inventory in Seattle! (We wish.) In truth, a wayward shipment of weed was discovered by K-Mart employees in their store-room. It had been wrapped in Korean newspapers and doused with cleaning fluid. The 10 pounds of pot had been shipped from Los Angeles, where medical marijuana is legal, to Philadelphia, where all pot is criminalized. The pot wound up at the Seattle K-Mart because the store was listed as the return address, obviously to disguise the identity of the sender.

Congress for Cannabis

Want the DEA out of pot enforcement? (Who doesn't?) How about a new Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, *Marijuana* and Firearms, or a federal license to grow pot?

It all sounds pretty good, right? Then you definitely want to support a new bill in Congress ambitiously titled the Ending Federal Marijuana Prohibition Act, introduced by cannabis-friendly Congressman Jared Polis of Colorado. The Polis bill would permit weed farmers to obtain a license from the federal government to grow pot in states that have legalized recreational and/or medical marijuana. It would also make cannabis regulation the responsibility of the ATF and end criminal enforcement by the DEA, though under the bill, it would remain illegal to transport cannabis into any state still prohibiting pot.

RIP, Yossarian (1945-2013)

The legendary New York underground cartoonist draws his last breath.



Alan Shenker—professionally known as Yossarian, fraternally called Yo—died in New York City in January. The underground cartoonist, art director and permanent bohemian (who took his name from the protagonist of Joseph Heller's famed antiwar novel *Catch-22*) became infamous while creating comic strips, illustrations and covers for the underground newspaper *The East Village Other* (a.k.a. *EVO*) in the 1960s. Like fellow misfit cartoonists Robert Crumb, S. Clay Wilson and Spain Rodriguez, Yossarian blended bull's-eye political and social satire, extreme brutality and outrageous humor. The targets of his pen were often authoritarian figures including Nazis, the American military and cops (but I repeat myself). While he worked primarily for Big Apple rags like *EVO*, *Rat Subterranean News* and the *New York Ace* in the heydaze



Yossarian: "He never sold out."

of the hippie counterculture, thanks to the Underground Press Syndicate, his art was reproduced in cheap newsprint all across the country. From sea to shining sea, many a joint was rolled on top of Yossarian's images!

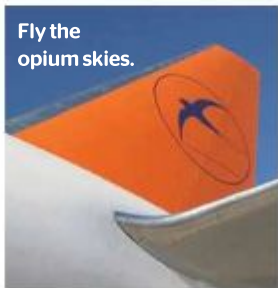
He also skewered sex, in particular as the art director

at the smut tabloids *Kiss* and *Screw*. Yo's "Fire Plug Funnies" was an example of his lack of political correctness as well as his relish for obliterating limits, featuring a woman who uses a fire hydrant like a dildo. Conversely, he also drew an illustration that revealed the rampant male chauvinism at *EVO*. His fetish for bald women resulted in the 'zine *The Razor's Edge*, which celebrated dames with denuded domes.

By all accounts, Yossarian was a man who knew how to enjoy life to its fullest on a limited budget, and he lived in the same rent-controlled crib until the end. "He did what all New Yorkers do," a longtime friend told *The Comics Journal*. "He complained about everything. He sat around drinking coffee at cafes. He talked to everyone." At the same time, "he was totally righteous and he never sold out." *Michael Simmons*

HIGHWIRE

Dispatches from the international drug war. *By Bill Weinberg*



US Blacklists Afghan Airline

One of Afghanistan's top airlines has been officially blacklisted by US authorities for allegedly trafficking opium on civilian flights. Kam Air is said to be smuggling "bulk" quantities of the drug to Tajikistan, a major export route to international markets. US Army Major General Richard Longo, the commander of Task Force 2010, a coalition anti-corruption unit, stated: "The US will do no business with those who fund and support illicit activities. Kam Air is too large of a company not to know what has been going on within its organization."

The airline remains barred from US contracts, even as Kam Air is currently in talks to merge with Afghanistan's state-owned carrier, Ariana Afghan Airlines. The Afghan government is defending the airline, demanding proof of wrongdoing and raising a rare threat of legal action.

Narcotics, Cigarette Smuggling Fund Al Qaeda

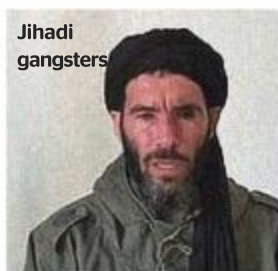
French forces intervened in Mali in January, sweeping jihadist rebels from their strongholds in Timbuktu and the northern desert. In retaliation, the forces of Mokhtar Belmokhtar, a.k.a. "Lawar" (the One Eyed), a renegade



Bolivia gets a coca leaf pass from the U.N.

Coca-Chewing Victory in Bolivia

Bolivia was readmitted to the UN Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs on January 11, after being given a special dispensation recognizing the traditional use of coca leaf as legal within its borders. Official celebrations of the victory were held in La Paz and Cochabamba. Fifteen countries objected to Bolivia's dispensation—far short of the 62 needed to block it (or a third of the convention's 183 signatory states). The dissenting governments were the United States, the United Kingdom, Russia, Japan, Mexico, Canada, Germany, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden, Finland, Portugal, Israel and Ireland. An official US statement said the Obama administration continues to believe that coca legalization "will lead to a greater supply of cocaine and increased cocaine trafficking and related crime."



Jihadi gangsters

commander of Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), seized a gas complex at Amenas, Algeria, taking the workers hostage—including Brits from the oil giant BP, which has a stake in the field. When the Algerian military stormed the complex on January 17, nearly 50 people were killed, including 35 hostages.

AQIM is said to be supplying arms and fighters to the jihadist militias in northern Mali, especially the Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa (MUJAO), with a diversified portfolio of funding sources that include kidnappings, weapons deals, cigarette and car smuggling, the occasional bank job and, of course, international narcotics trafficking.

Mexico's "Murder City"

There were 12,394 drug-related violent deaths in Mexico last year, according to a count released by the daily *Milenio*. This was an increase of 110 murders over 2011, according to the paper, but 264 fewer than in 2010, the most violent year of outgoing President Felipe Calderón's administration. For a fifth consecutive year, Chihuahua was the most violent state in the country, accounting for 18 percent of total deaths. Yet the official number of murders in Chihuahua's border city of Juárez dropped to about 800—down from 3,622 in 2010 that won it the sobriquet Murder City.

National Public Radio reports that the "word on the street" is that the long, bloody turf war is winding down because one side has definitively won: the interloping Sinaloa Cartel, which defeated the local and now heavily factionalized Juárez Cartel.



A thaw in Venezuela?

DEA: Back to Venezuela?

In the first sign of a possible thaw in relations between the US and Venezuela, the Caracas government is weighing a request from Washington to allow a high-level DEA official to visit the South American country. Venezuela's ambassador to the Organization of American States, Roy Chaderton, told the Associated Press: "We are open to improving relations with the United States, but we are not seeking in this overture a good-conduct certification on the part of the government or Congress of the United States." The US has "blacklisted" Venezuela for the past four years over its alleged failure to take measures

against drug trafficking.

The announcement comes amid tension in the country over the health of President Hugo Chávez, who has not been seen or heard from since his fourth operation for cancer in Havana, Cuba. Chávez, recently reelected, was inaugurated in absentia on January 10, following a ruling by Venezuela's Supreme Court that found such a proceeding constitutional. Vice President Nicolás Maduro oversaw the public ceremony and called on the gathered masses to take an oath of "absolute loyalty to the leadership of Comandante Hugo Chávez."

Honduras: Another Deadly DEA Raid

At least one suspected drug trafficker was killed on January 16 in the first US-supported raid in Honduras following a five-month suspension in radar-intelligence sharing between the two countries. The Honduran Navy said that one of three Jamaican men on a speedboat carrying 771 pounds of cocaine died when a Honduran Coast Guard vessel rammed it before dawn about three miles off the country's north coast. A contingent of DEA agents was apparently on board the Honduran Coast Guard ship. Another of the Jamaicans reportedly jumped into the sea and disappeared. The third man was detained and interrogated by the DEA. ✨

For more updates, visit *Bill Weinberg's websites*, GlobalGanjaReport.com and WorldWar4Report.com.



VAPEXHALE.COM



Rome and Eric
get tubular.



Ska Authentic

Sublime With Rome attempt to cast off the shadow of Brad Nowell's ghost. *By Chris Parker*

As Dr. Frankenstein will tell you, it's tricky business reanimating a corpse. In the case of ska-punk legends Sublime, the return's been bittersweet.

Sublime formed in 1988, but their origins go back farther. Bassist Eric Wilson and singer/guitarist Bradley Nowell met in high school, where they started a band called Hogan's Heroes. Their partnership united the strains of hardcore and reggae that would come to define the Sublime sound.

"I didn't know anything about reggae until I met Brad," Wilson says from behind a curtain of *sativa* smoke. "He was kind of softer, but he was into some punk stuff—he had some Circle Jerks. When I met him, I brought over an Exploited album. 'Dead Cities' was the first song we played together."

After building a strong SoCal following, Sublime self-released their debut album, *40 Oz. to Freedom*, in 1992. The trio

followed with *Robbin' the Hood* in '94, which MCA picked up and rereleased. They were two months shy of releasing their eponymous 1996 major-label debut when Nowell overdosed on heroin. Wilson and drummer Bud Gaugh decided to shutter the band, but that didn't stop *Sublime* from going quintuple platinum.

Most fans never had an opportunity to see them live. That includes singer/guitarist Rome Ramirez. Not only were Sublime his favorite band, they were the reason he became a musician.

"I heard Sublime, and I was like, 'Holy shit—this is the real jazz right here,'" Ramirez

recalls. "I asked my mom and dad the summer of fifth grade if I could get a guitar. I wanted it so I could learn those songs."

Eight years later, his mom would encourage him to make use of it. "I wasn't really doing much, and I had just turned 18, and my mom is like, 'You should go to LA and do something with yourself and that music.'"

So he did. It wasn't long before Ramirez met Wilson at the 17th Street Recording Studio, and the two began jamming. "One thing led to another—Eric called up Bud and asked if he'd be interested in starting a band," says the 24-year-old first-generation

Asked what drew him to Rome, Wilson is succinct: "He's super-talented—he's able to play guitar really well, and he also smokes a lot of pot."

Mexican-American. "Bud was like, 'Bring the kid on up!' We jammed. It felt dope. And so we kept it going."

They played their first public show eight months later in October 2009 as part of Cypress Hill's annual Smoke-out Festival. But not everyone was pleased with their return. They appeared billed as Sublime, prompting a lawsuit by Nowell's family and a name change to Sublime With Rome. Others derided the comeback as a pure money grab, even though Wilson and Gaugh had never had the chance to play Sublime's music for the rest of the country (or the world).

The two spent several years together in a post-Sublime outfit, the Long Beach Dub Allstars. When that broke up in 2002, Wilson founded Long Beach Shortbus with several LBDA members, though that band also petered out. By the time he met Rome, Wilson

« was looking for a new project. Asked what drew him to Rome, Wilson is succinct: “He’s super-talented—he’s able to play guitar really well, and he also smokes a lot of pot.”

That’s apparent as we partake: There’s no stopping the steady string of bong tokes. We say thanks to their friends at Sheldon Black, who shipped a choice bong when Wilson and Ramirez left home unprepared. As we smoke, Wilson lays back quietly like an older brother, while Ramirez rambles on loquaciously.

He’s talking about Sublime With Rome’s first album, *Yours Truly*, a stylistic merry-go-round to match the band’s historically felicitous tastes. Hardcore, punk, ska, reggae, pop, hip-hop—it’s all represented. The album cracked the *Billboard* Top 10 and produced a pair of Top 25 hits, the lively ska-punk “Panic” and the reggae shuffle “Take It or Leave It.”

But trouble was brewing behind the scenes. Gaugh had second thoughts, concerned with dissing Nowell’s memory. In December 2011, he decided to quit. In the limited interviews he’s done since then, Gaugh has expressed unwillingness ever to work with Ramirez again and questioned whether they should have disinterred Sublime in the first place.

For Wilson, that’s not even a question: He just feels happier on the road. After all, why should he be denied the fruits of his labor because one bandmate died and the other had a change of heart?

“People want to hear it, there’s a demand for it—so why the hell not?” Wilson says. He feels energized to be playing this music again. “It was a real natural feeling, because it’s what I should’ve been doing all along anyway.”

In the meantime, Gaugh’s been replaced on drums by popular hired gun Josh Freese (Guns N’ Roses, A Perfect



“People want to hear it, there’s a demand for it—so why the hell not?” Wilson says.

Circle, Paramore, Devo). While Ramirez says there won’t be any more Sublime With Rome recordings until Gaugh comes back, one wonders how committed they are to playing this game of chicken.

Nonetheless, Ramirez is enjoying himself. “The past couple years, Bud and Eric have taken me around the world and back twice,” he says. “They’ve introduced me to so many amazing people, amazing places and opportunities.”

He recounts one memorable incident at an Amsterdam coffeeshop. A little person came in with his full-size girlfriend. Suddenly, the diminutive patron poured some kief onto the bar top and snorted it.

“I just thought he was being a funny guy and joking, but then he does another and another one. Me and the budtender look at each other like, ‘What the hell is going on?’” Ramirez recalls. “Then 10, 15 minutes later, he passes out and falls over backward off his stool—which for him was like a 10-foot drop. He hit hard. I was like, ‘Oh shit, is he dead?’ I look over at the budtender,

and he doesn’t even flinch. He’s like, ‘Ah man, this happens 10 times a day.’”

Ramirez can sympathize on a certain level. He got seriously fucked up back when he smoked for the first time in seventh grade after scoring a sack laced with PCP. After one seriously mind-fucking joint, Ramirez decided to swear off pot. That summer, he finally smoked some weed that wasn’t laced, inaugurating a lifelong love affair.

Wilson’s father actually caught him smoking *his* first joint on the beach with the local sheriff’s son. Later, the tables were turned, as Wilson started noticing his dad picking him up from band practice with Binaca breath and bloodshot eyes.

“He’d drive like five miles per hour going home. People were beeping,” Wilson says. “One time, I searched around his van when he was in the store or something. I found

his shitty-ass weed in the gear shifter of the Volkswagen. I didn’t take it because it was so weak. Shortly after that, we started getting high together.”

Wilson also started scoring his dad some better pot. Not only did it relieve his father’s Parkinson’s symptoms, but it offered the two a chance to bond.

“I never had the money to pay for weed, so he’d come in [my room] and ask if I wanted to ‘turn on,’” Wilson recalls. “He knew he wouldn’t be around too much longer because he had Parkinson’s, so he started smoking with me.”

As for the future of Sublime With Rome, which will be touring Brazil in March, Ramirez knows he has to deal with the haters, but he figures it’s a small price to pay for the chance to live out his dream. And the dream just keeps getting better.

“We’re on the biggest tour we’ve been on in four years [supporting Cypress Hill],” he says. “We’re having the time of our lives out here playing great songs, meeting great people in bigger and bigger venues. What’s not to love?” ✨



Legacy of Lou Dog (11/25/89–9/17/01)

- Named after Brad Nowell’s grandfather Louie.
- Lou wandered the stage at shows, and often appears in Sublime’s albums and songs.
- On “What I Got,” Nowell sang, “Livin’ with Louie Dog’s the only way to stay sane.”



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Growing, from the root up.



Welcome to the Party

Rusted Root share good vibes, dance grooves with new album: *The Movement*.

Thank goodness peace, love and great grooves haven't fallen out of fashion, because Rusted Root delivers all this and more with their seventh studio album, *The Movement*.

The Pittsburgh-based band known for their live show made waves in the 90s opening for the Grateful Dead, Santana, and the Allman Brothers, and over the course of twenty plus years have clung tight to their unique sound of drum circle beats, trippy tribal chants and catchy guitar riffs.

Root Heads, as fans are called, will have a perma-grin because *The Movement* captures the familiar sensation of both *Cruel Sun* and *When I Woke*. Bouncing through the album, the lighthearted "Cover Me Up" joyously blends Michael Glabicki and Liz Berlin's voices—playfully



weaving the melody over poly-rhythmic layers with the help of bassist Patrick Carter and percussionist Preach Freedom. Tunes like "Fortunate Freaks" will steadily be on repeat, and the sugary sweet lyrics of "Sun and Magic" may cause a cavity from their overwhelming heartfelt emotion.

Catching up with Rusted Root before their New Year's Day show in New York City, the band is clearly fired up from the previous night's show and their fans' overwhelmingly

"It's cool because we finally created something that is rooted, in the sense that our fans know what Rusted Root is all about."

positive reception to the album. "It's cool because we finally created something that is rooted, in the sense that our fans know what Rusted Root is all about," says Glabicki, who solely produced and engineered the album.

Taking a toke of Loud Scout, the 2012 Hybrid Cannabis Cup winner, brother Preach Freedom has no problem sharing with the world that he loves weed and considers it medicine. "It's the healing of the nation. Can you dig it? We love it. I love it, because it's a good

expectorant, too. I *expect* to get high," Freedom says as we depart, sending me on my way. "This is *High Times*, baby. Two thousand thirteen, everything green!" *Jen Bernstein*

Watch Preach and Patrick puff Loud Scout. hightimes.com/rootstash



RUSTED ROOT'S TAKE ON TOKING

- Preach Freedom is the band's most outspoken member about weed and partakes daily in the blessed sacrament.
- Rusted Root was named one of the biggest stoner bands for their jammed-out style of music.

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The Acid King and I

Testing the boundaries of love and consciousness.

“There is nothing we can’t do,” Owsley Stanley told Rhoney Gissen at the beginning of their love affair in 1965. Owsley, a.k.a. Bear, believed that LSD would kick-start a revolution in human consciousness. He became the largest manufacturer of LSD in the '60s and sold or gave away over half a million hits—maybe more. “LSD is just a tool for transformation,” he said. “We need more people on the bandwagon. Critical mass. That is my vision.”

So Rhoney—a nice, if rebellious, upper-class Jewish girl—got thrust into the heart of the largest mass-bohemian movement in history. She was one of Owsley’s two live-in girlfriends as well as his lab assistant, part of the Grateful Dead family and an active participant in the freak community. In this wild memoir of life with the media-crowned “Acid King,” she captures the perfectionist genius who also transformed audio technology, created jewelry, advocated a carnivorous diet and studied to be a ballet dancer.

The author and her late writing partner, Tom Davis of *Saturday Night Live* fame, wisely focus on the halcyon hippie years, and a familiarity with the dramatis personae of that era is helpful, as Gissen Stanley references first names that many—save Deadheads—won’t recognize. But Jerry Garcia, Ken Kesey, Janis Joplin, Bill Graham, David Crosby and the rest are all here, and the author even gets a

chaste kiss from George Harrison—a thankful consumer of Owsley’s product, as were his bandmates.

Owsley was busted by the Feds for his chemical production in '67, gallantly took the rap for his co-conspiring girlfriends and did time. “Prison made him a bona fide outlaw and an enemy of his country,” writes Gissen Stanley—so much so that the onetime patriot later emigrated to Australia, where he died in 2011. The author bore him a son, adopted his last name and became a holistic orthodontist. Thanks to Owsley, she was able to make her own dental appliances; among other things, he’d taught her how to solder. *Michael Simmons*



Owsley and Me: My LSD Family
Rhoney Gissen Stanley with Tom Davis
(Monkfish)

MUSIC RECOMMENDATIONS



Tomahawk
Oddfellows
(Ipecac)

Mike Patton must bore easily, given the way he jumps from band to band. These days, he’s reunited the “anonymous super-group” Tomahawk, which features the Faith No More vocalist alongside guitarist Duane Denison of the Jesus Lizard, bassist Trevor Dunn of Fantômas and Helmet

drummer John Stanier. The band’s fondness for quirky shifts between experimental diversity and commercial accessibility is immediately apparent. Even if it’s all parodic irony (as on the smarmy “Choke Neck”), most of this LP should still be hailed for its intriguing invention. *Mark Miller*



Unknown Mortal Orchestra
II
(Jagjaguwar)

Fresh off his stint with the New Zealand outfit Mint Chicks, guitarist/vocalist Ruban Nielson rebounded strongly with the Unknown Mortal Orchestra’s self-titled debut in 2011. The album mixed propulsive beats with treated vocals and catchy, effects-laden riffs that sounded at once both

retro and modern. While a winning formula, it was still a formula, and their second LP understandably moves toward more standard-sounding indie-rock fare. It’s fun but somewhat uneven. All of which makes *II* an album whose selections are best consumed à la carte.

Justin Hampton



Matmos
The Marriage of True Minds
(Thrill Jockey)

Matmos has been constructing cameo-laden conceptual electronica for the better part of a decade. But up until last year’s *Ganzfeld* EP, they’d never attempted an ESP experiment, wherein the concept would be willed into the minds of their collaborators. Matmos is all over the map,

layering avant-garde electronic noodling and sound atop contributions from the doom metal vocalist Gerry Mak (Bloody Panda), IDM vet J Lesser and others. But its predictably stream-of-consciousness nature ensures a mixed-bag listen, as ephemeral as a dream.

Justin Hampton



Chelsea Light Moving
Chelsea Light Moving
(Matador)

Thurston Moore returns to the primordial throb of early Sonic Youth with his first post-Kim Gordon project. There are noisy excursions and skronk eruptions, but the emphasis is on chug, à la Black Sabbath. Moore’s lyrical haikus are typically best left unexamined, but there’s whimsy in the

sludgy enlightenment ode “Alighted” (which explains, “I come to get wasted”) or the two-and-a-half-minute minimalist paean “Lip.” Sonic Youth made great art punk but were at their finest smashing shit up. Here, Moore rediscovers some of that primal '90s fire. *Chris Parker*



Ben Lee
Ayahuasca: Welcome to the Work
(Ten Fingers)

Indie pop-rocker Ben Lee says that his ayahuasca use was “not a drug experience, but a sacred, spiritual experience used to uncover untouched depths of my own unconscious.” With this concept album, he examines his journeys on the South American DMT brew. Lee’s knack for

melody is in abundance here, but in keeping with the “spirit vine” trip, there are stretches of dissonance. Also worth noting: Artist royalties from the album will be donated to the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies (MAPS) and the Amazon Conservation Team. *Michael Simmons*

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There's nothing more admirable than living a "hard knocks" life, pulling yourself up by the bootstraps and then having the gumption to spread that healing with the rest of your breaths. And that's just what Darius Wright has done: resurrected his life from the ashes of chronic illness and addiction to spread the word about natural healing and physical fitness.

The natural remedy that he credits with keeping him alive through all the trials and tribulations and making him a vibrant, certified fitness trainer and entrepreneur (Fountain of Youth Fitness and Health LLC) at 52 years young? Cannabis.

"Weed allowed me to see the great value of the natural world," Wright explains, "and that is why, at 52, I am healthier, sharper, fitter than I have ever been in my entire life—and I was an athlete. Yet I smoke every day medicinally! I

do the opposite of what Western medical doctors recommend, because when I did as they said, I was chronically sick with every manner of ailment. Now I live an almost completely natural existence, putting in my body as much from nature as humanly possible. I am unsick, highly fit, and I'd have to say that nature was the key to my health and life!

"I know that there is a reason for me being alive today. I had to experience untold suffering to get a total understanding of our natural lives by coming close to death on numerous occasions and by living a life that was no more than death. Weed has been a part of my existence through all of those times, and I am not really sure how I could have mentally and physically endured without its presence. It opened my mind to the totality of nature and natural substances."

Massive kudos, Darius, and a big thank-you for sharing this great protein shake with our readers. So smack that stoner stereotype to the curb and, as Wright aptly states, "Get your groove on! Get your health on! We all know that marijuana is a blessing from nature! We must not forget that nature is the provider of our health and our lives. Marijuana, in conjunction with the other life-giving products of nature, allows us to enjoy maximum life!" *Mary Ought Six*

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Raw honey, agave, blackstrap molasses or palm sugar for sweetening
Springwater for additional thinning or for filling the container if needed

on low to medium heat, making sure not to reduce or burn (15 to 20 minutes tops). Next, put everything in the blender, adding the milk/weed mixture last. Start blending on low speed, then progress to high for a short time. Let rest, and repeat three to four times for a smooth consistency.

Last but not least, find yourself a comfortable chair, a nice tall glass, then sit back and enjoy the pleasures of weed the way nature intended! *Stones 1.*

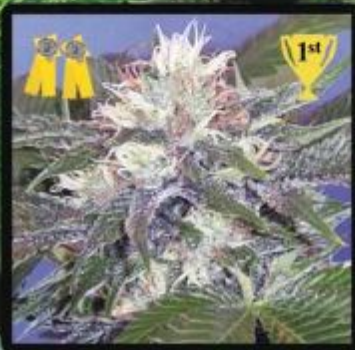
Pour the milk in a small pot with the crushed bud. Simmer

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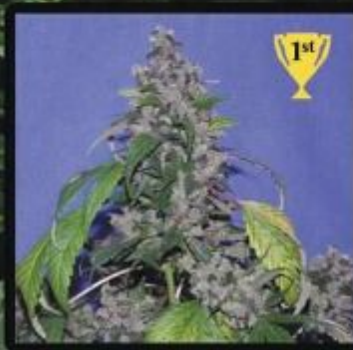
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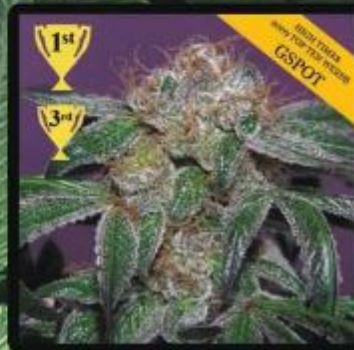
VISC



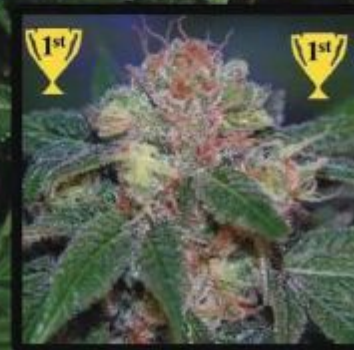
420



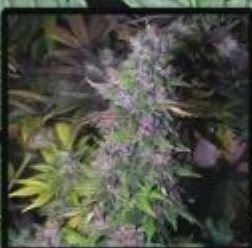
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funding our schools and hospitals or used to reduce our debts. Legalize and tax Marijuana and the income generated can change our world. Grow and help the world grow too.

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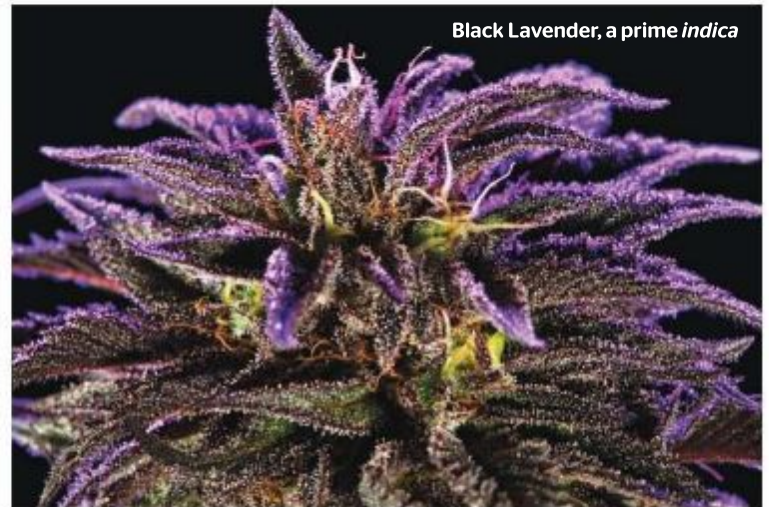
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Medical Strain of the Month



Black Lavender, a prime indica

Black Lavender

At the 25th Annual High Times Cannabis Cup in Amsterdam in November, a seed-breeding legend known as Soma took home the *Sativa* Cup for his amazing Amnesia Haze strain. I personally had a chance to sample the winning entry shortly after the awards ceremony and found its clarity-inducing, sense-sharpening properties ideally suited to a friendly but frenetic game of Ping-Pong. Those seeking to stimulate their appetite, reduce nausea, fight depression or relieve a migraine headache would also benefit from not forgetting about Amnesia Haze.

Meanwhile, by promoting organic and environmentally friendly growing methods, Soma has consistently shown that producing top-quality medicinal-grade cannabis doesn't require chemical additives. He earned a second-place medal at the Cannabis Cup as far back as 2001 and took home the *Indica* Cup in 2005 with Lavender.

Boasting a Super Skunk x Big Skunk Korean x Afghani/Hawaiian lineage, Lavender is a truly transglobal strain, with all the couch-locking, muscle-relaxing, pain-killing power you'd expect from a Cup-winning *indica*. Combine that with a flavor reminiscent of

pomegranate and plum—plus, of course, floral notes of lavender—and you've got a sedative far safer (and more pleasant) than anything your doctor can prescribe.

So, naturally, I was more than intrigued when a group called the California Growers Collective invited me to sample a new strain they had developed called Black Lavender, made by crossing a Lavender female with a Blackberry Kush x DJ Short's Blueberry male. The result—sun-grown in a fully organic, eco-friendly garden that would make Soma proud—retains many of the original Lavender's high points, though with a far darker hue to its trichrome-dusted colas. This particular sample was grown in 25-gallon pots filled with an organic top dress and fed weekly with compost tea.

Ready to harvest after about 56 days of flowering, Black Lavender yields dense buds that marry the fruity burst of DJ Short's Blueberry genetics and the tart tang of Blackberry Kush to Lavender's already heady flavor profile. Highly sought after in Central California, this boutique strain has all the makings of becoming a mainstay in the California medical marijuana scene and beyond, as befits its proud lineage. *David Bienenstock*

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3 Get Homegrown

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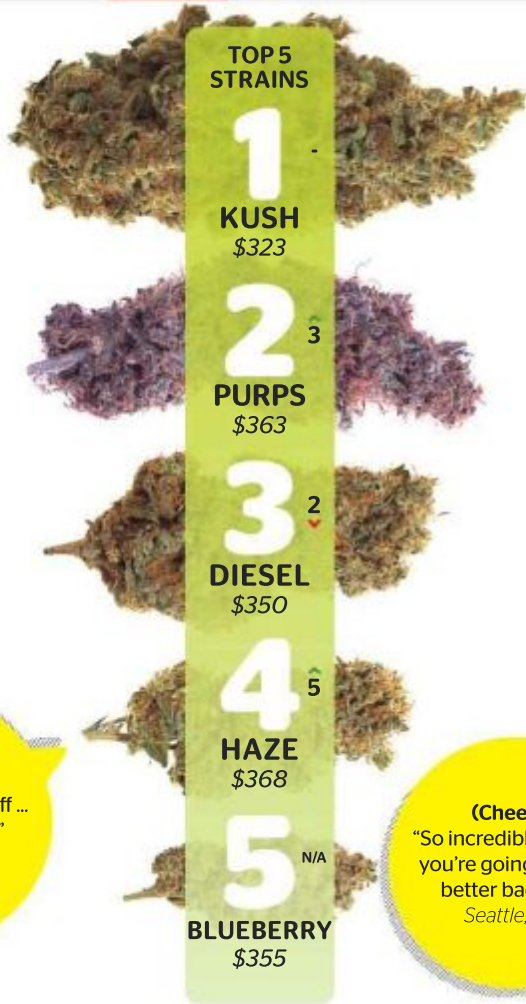
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	Phoenix	Granddaddy Purps	450
Arkansas	El Dorado	Blueberry	350
California	Los Angeles	Tahoe OG	240
		New York Sour Diesel	240
		Louis XIII	360
	San Diego	Platinum OG	320
	San Francisco	Chocolope	240
		Skywalker	360
	Headband	320	
Colorado	Denver	Golden Goat	300
		Holy Grail OG	350
		G-13	250
Delaware	Pike Creek	NYC Diesel	370
		Purple Haze	350
Florida	Orlando	Blue Dream	390
Georgia	Athens	Jack Herer	400
Hawaii	Kona	Granddaddy Purps	350
Indiana	Fort Wayne	White Widow	360
Maine	Bangor	Super Silver Haze	350
Massachusetts	Boston	East Coast Sour Diesel	420
		Jack Herer	400
Michigan	Grand Rapids Traverse City	Platinum OG	280
		Pineapple Kush	320
		Blueberry Haze	360
Minnesota	St. Cloud Stillwater	Sweet God Bud	300
		Purple Haze	380
New Jersey	Newark	Headband	400
		Blue Dream	340
New York	New York Syracuse	Strawberry Cough	420
		Guava Chem	400
		Mountain Kush	340
		Green Crack	340
North Carolina	Raleigh	Kush	350
		Trainwreck	325
Ohio	Akron	Amnesia Haze	400
Oregon	Portland	Dutch Passion	250
		Vortex	200
Tennessee	Nashville	White Widow	300
		Lamb's Bread	150
Texas	Fort Worth San Antonio	Cat Piss	250
		AK-47	320
		Cinderella	350
Virginia	Richmond	OG Kush	420
Washington	Kennewick Seattle	Jack Herer	250
		Cheese	300
INTERNATIONAL			
Canada	Edmonton	Purple Kush	C\$240
		Jack Herer	250
	Toronto	Power Plant	220

MARKET ANALYSIS

Prices by the ounce

The US Price and Kind indices both dropped \$10 from their previous month's average. \$380 per ounce marks the Kind Index's lowest monthly average of 2013. Meanwhile, the US Price Index fell to its second lowest average of the year.

US Price Index
YTD Average: \$328

Kind Index
YTD Average: \$395



Mids Index
YTD Average: \$275

Schwag Index
YTD Average: \$101



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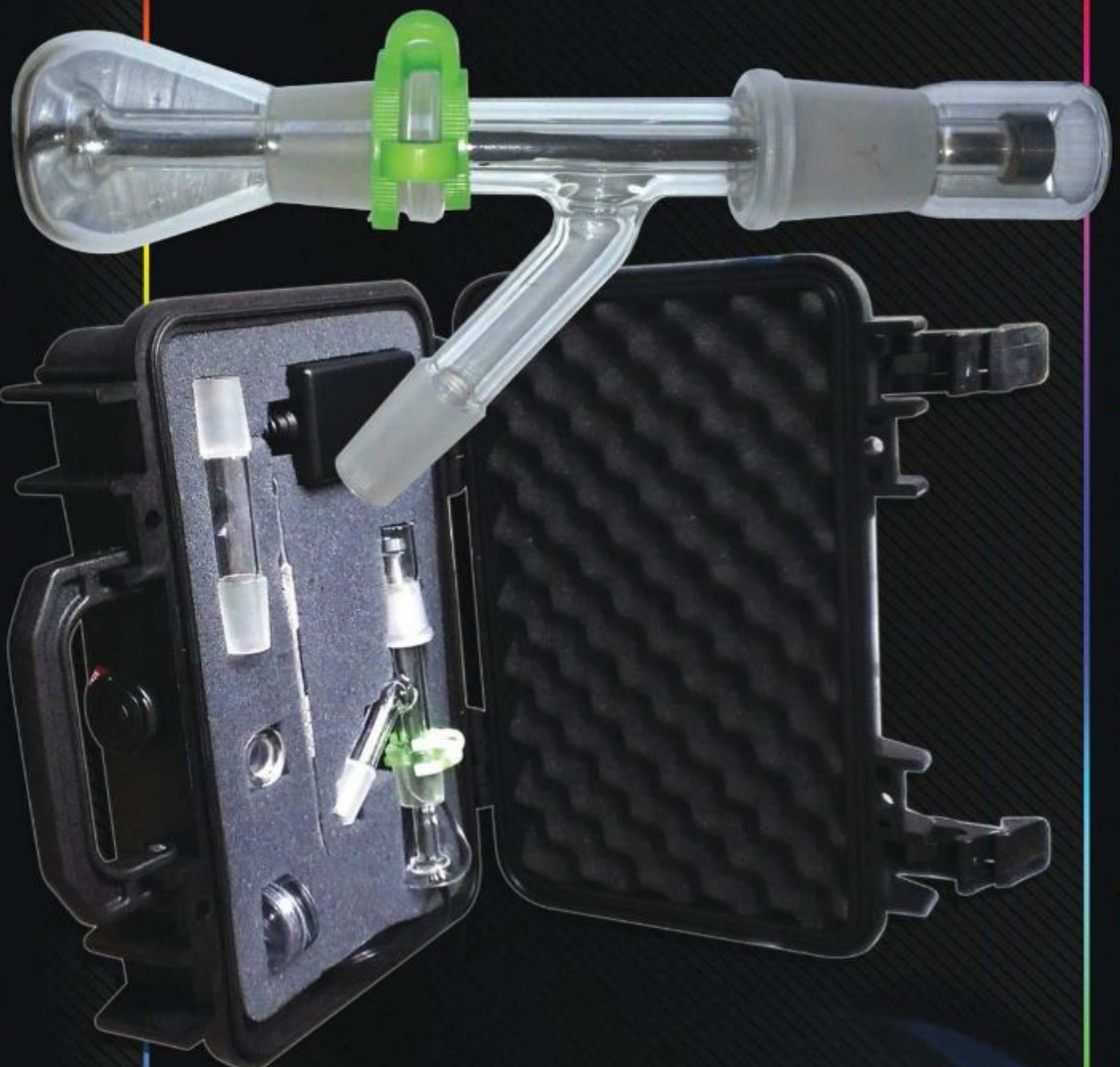
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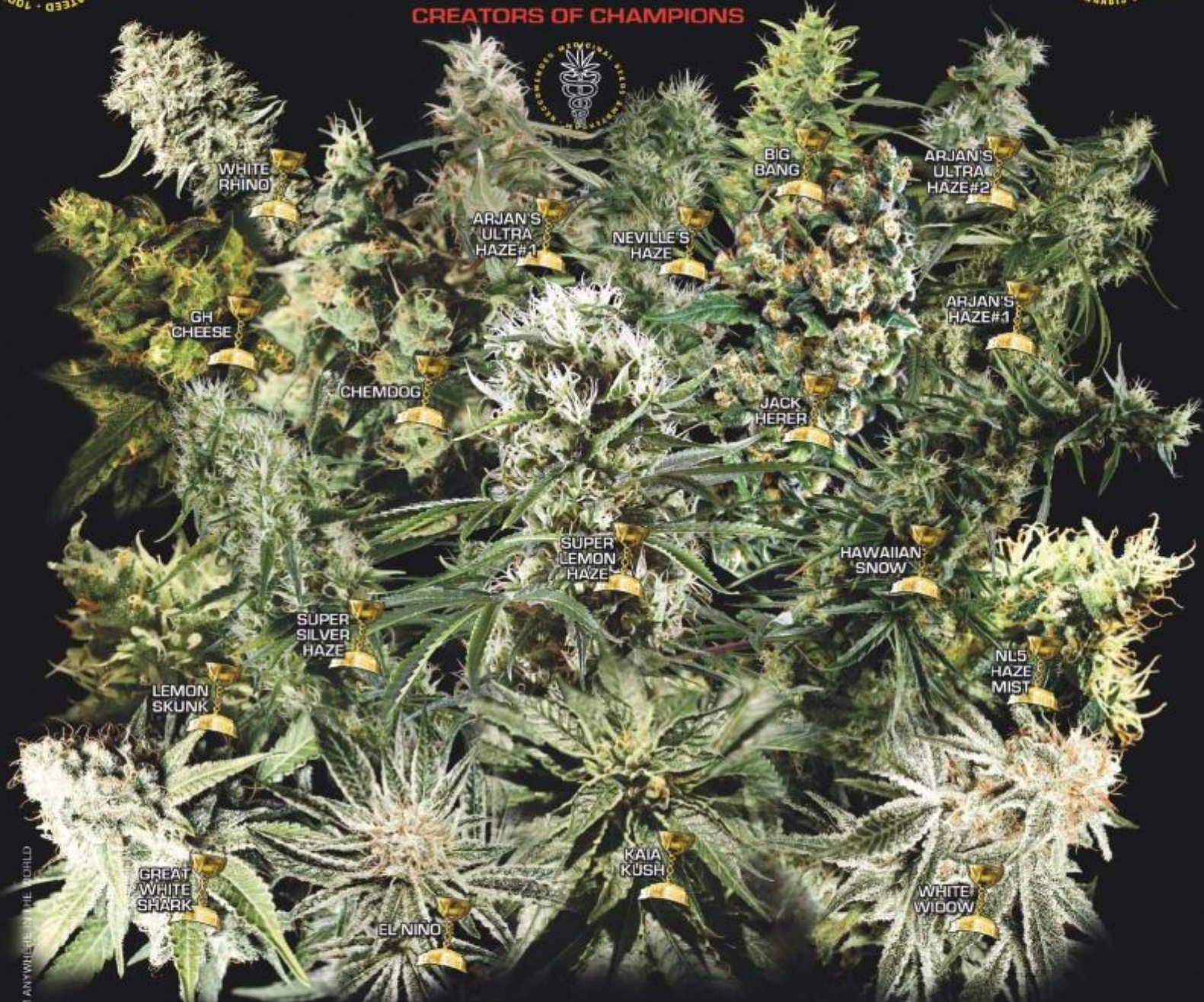


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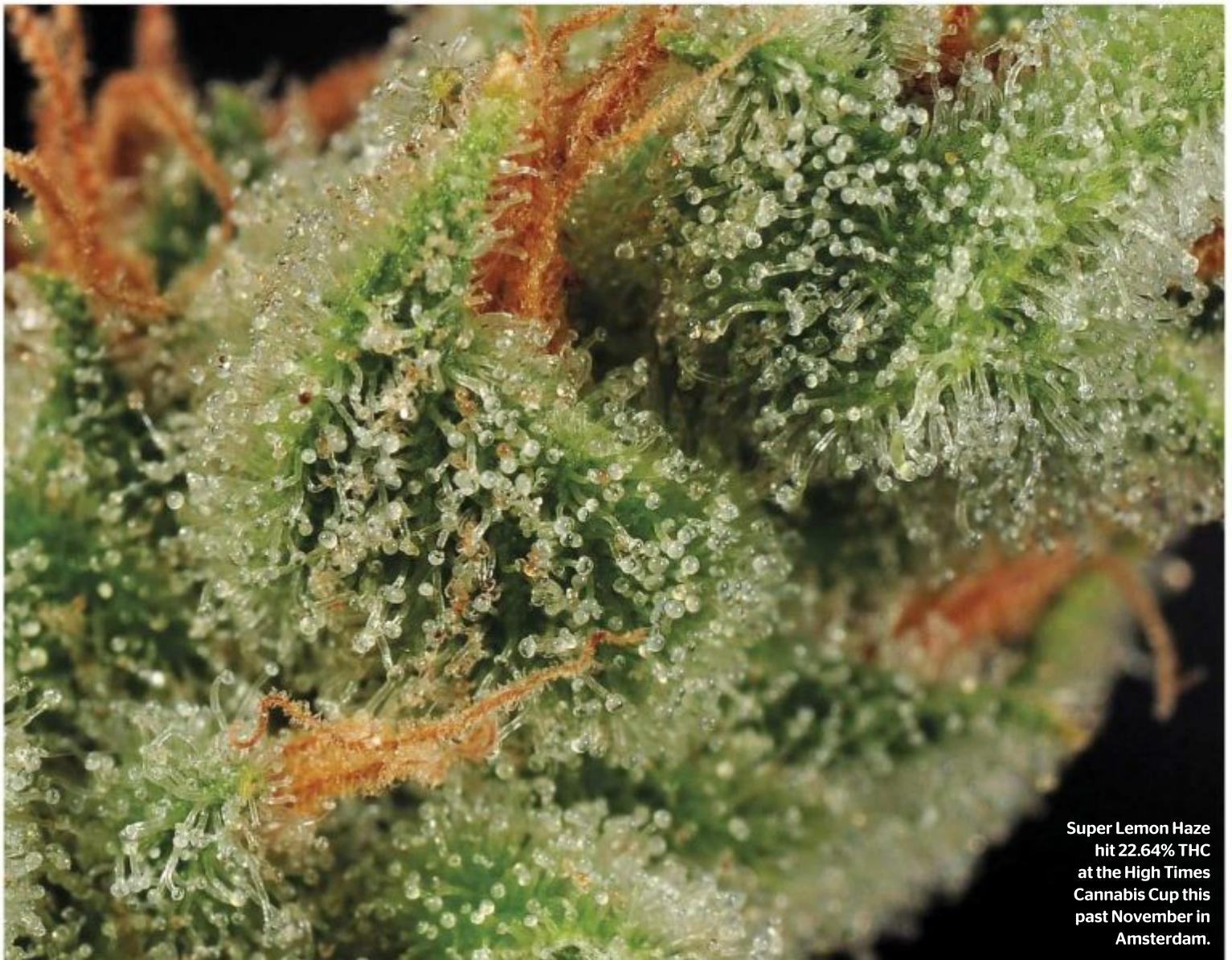
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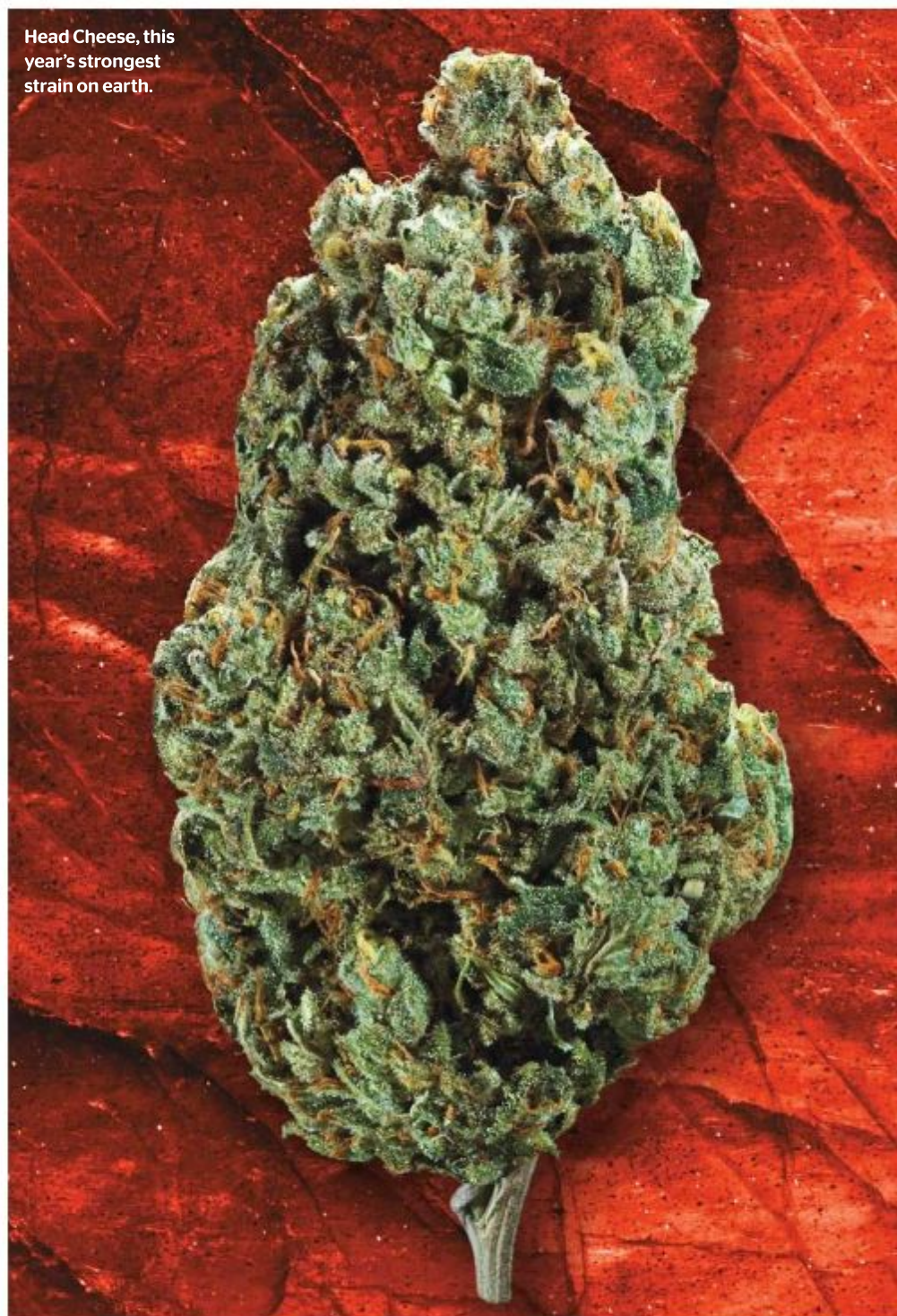
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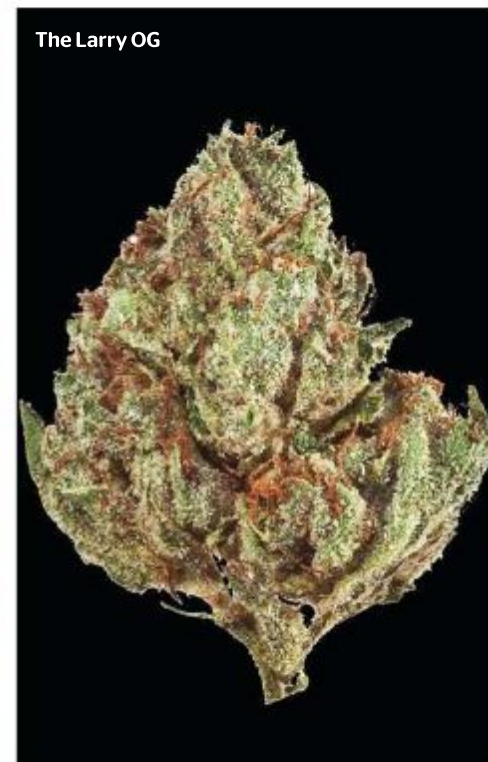


Super Lemon Haze
hit 22.64% THC
at the High Times
Cannabis Cup this
past November in
Amsterdam.

Welcome back to our annual review of the strains that topped the THC charts at all five High Times Cannabis Cups in 2012. Of course, as every connoisseur of fine cannabis would wish, we've selected only those strains whose potency measured beyond the 20% threshold for this definitive list of the world's strongest strains. *By Nico Escondido*



Head Cheese, this year's strongest strain on earth.



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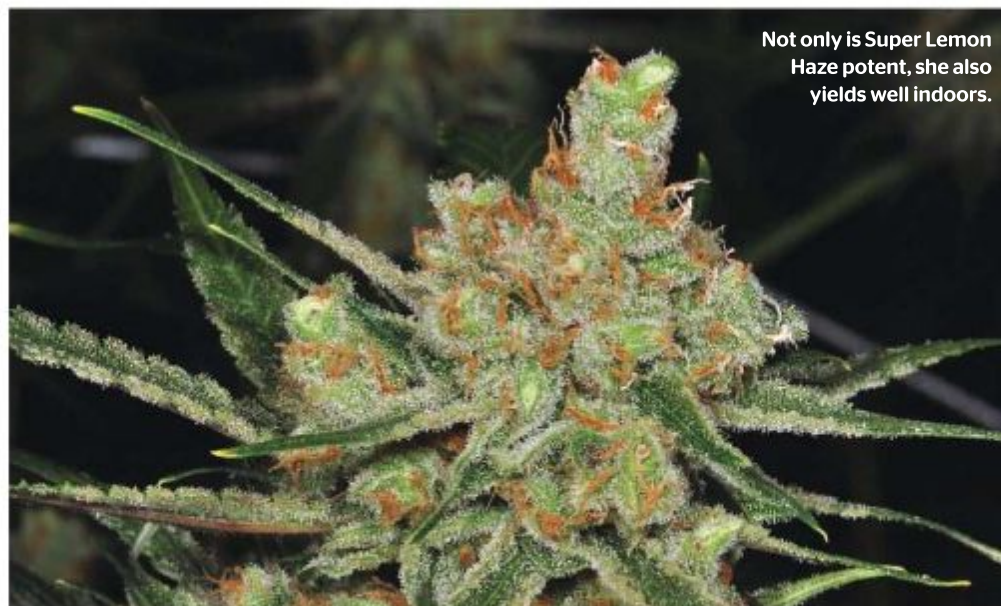
Testing Labs: The Werc Shop, Pasadena, CA, and Strain Genius Labs, LA

**24.79%
THC**

Head Cheese

Blunt Brothers

Our strongest strain of 2012, this mega-juiced hybrid hit nearly 25% THC and is the second-highest entry ever tested at a High Times Cannabis Cup! Grown from clone with synthetic nutrients in a hydroponic system, this Headband x Cheese is a solid eight-week-flowering strain that's also heavy in myrcene, a terpene that carries hints of garden herbs and hops for a sweet, tangy flavor.



Not only is Super Lemon Haze potent, she also yields well indoors.

**24.16%
THC**

Matt's OG

Kushmart

It's no surprise that a cut with this lineage takes second-place honors on this year's list. A master hybrid of sister phenotypes, Matt's OG is actually a mutt of Headband x Sour Diesel x Chemdog. With Chem D (a perennial champion when it comes to potency) among the parents, it's easy to see how this entry kicked it to the next level in terms of THC. The ranking also helps solidify LA's place as one of the strongest cities on earth in 2012.

22.64%
THC

Super Lemon Haze

One Love Herbal Collective

Grown from seed, this Amsterdam original—a cross of Lemon Skunk and Super Silver Haze—was created by the always formidable Green House Seed Company. The lemon half, which is native to the US, brings an overriding citrus flavor to the flower, and a terpenoid analysis (provided by the Werc Shop) shows extremely high levels of limonene and terpinolene, making this a tasty and potent super-*sativa*.

21.31%
THC

Larry OG

River City Phoenix

Last year, the Larry OG cracked our strongest strains list with a THC level of 21.46%, just a notch above this year's mark. This *indica*-heavy hybrid is a cross of two sister phenos, making it a virtual backcross that is beyond stable and comes with serious flavor to match its intense high. Some regard the Larry OG as a perfect mesh of OG North and OG South in the OG kingdom known as Cali.

20.73%
THC

Boost

Wolf Den

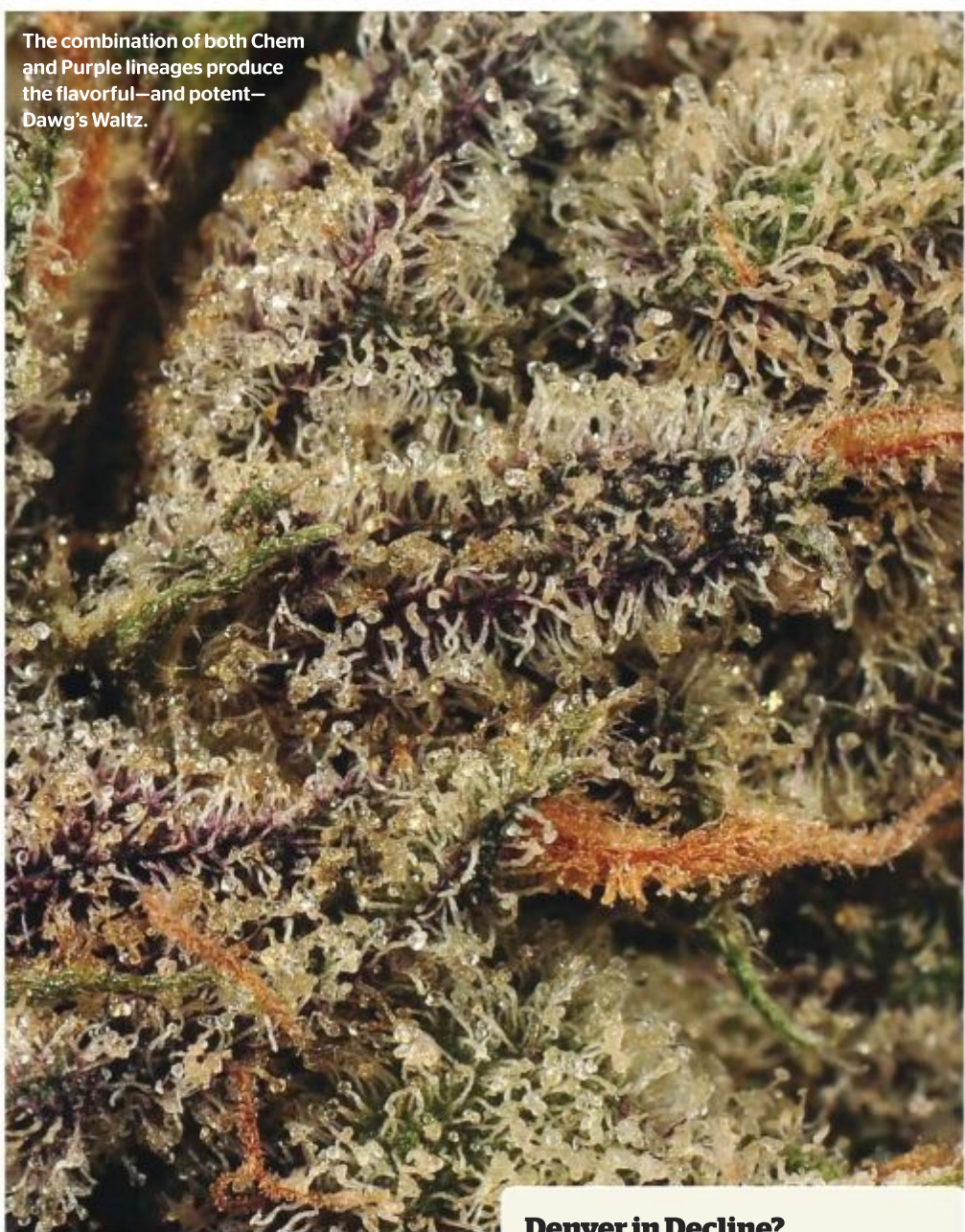
Perhaps the most unique strain in this year's list, Boost is an *indica*-dominant cross of a female NorCal Blueberry x Northern Lights and a male Sweet Tooth from BC. Both parents have been worked and backcrossed for over a decade now. But perhaps the most interesting aspect of this entry is that she topped 20% THC while grown outdoors organically—a rare accomplishment these days. Well done, Wolf Den.

20.07%
THC

Strawberry Cough from Kushman Veganics

Buds and Roses Collective (2nd Place Hybrid Cup)

We like to call this one a *High Times* original, since former cultivation reporter Kyle Kushman originally stabilized this glorious flower, whose lineage is hazy at best—and we mean that literally. A *sativa*-esque hybrid, the Strawberry Cough is definitely a Haze of some sort, though which partner this parent had is still up for debate. One thing is certain though: When you combine an “up” high of this potency with that pungent strawberry flavor, the result will earn you at least a second-place finish at the 2012 LA Medical Cannabis Cup.



The combination of both Chem and Purple lineages produce the flavorful—and potent—Dawg's Waltz.

Denver Medical Cannabis Cup, EXDO Event Center, April 21-22, 2012

Testing Labs: Herbal Synergy, Denver, and Colorado Mobile Testing, Fort Collins, CO

19.72%
THC

Dawg's Waltz

Natural Remedies

The year 2012 wasn't super-kind to Denver, as 2011's strongest city failed to see a single entry hit the 20% mark! Still, we couldn't leave out our beloved Colorado—one of two states that legalized pot in '12 and a stalwart in engineering many of the most potent THC strains on the planet. Not to mention that this Dawg's Waltz cut—a cross between Tres Dawg and Purple Urkel—came within 0.28% of the sacred mark and topped Denver's 2012 Cup class.

Denver in Decline?

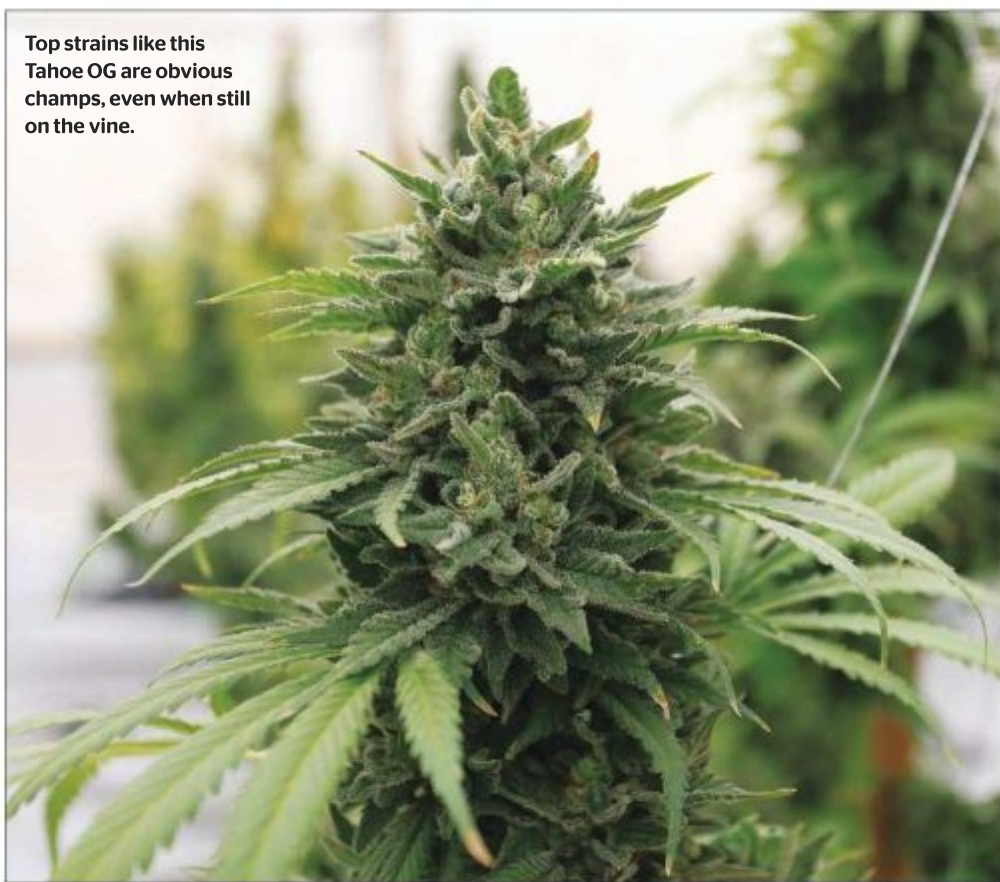
Okay, we know what you're thinking, and we're big enough to admit a few things here. Last year, in our first-ever “Earth's Strongest Strains” list (May '12), we stated the following:

“Out of the 31 strains entered last year that tested over 20% THC, 19 of them came from the Denver Medical Cannabis Cup ... our apologies to the great pot cities in California and the Netherlands, but the hands-down winner of the 2011 potency challenge is Denver ... If you've got a problem with that, come on out to a Cup and prove us wrong!”

Well, California, you came back plenty strong from last year's disappointment to make your case—and we're listening. With no Denver strain even cracking the 20% threshold and San Francisco and Los Angeles out in force, the 2012 Cannabis Cup box score looks like this:

Strains with THC potencies of over 20% San Francisco, 14; Los Angeles, 7; Amsterdam, 6; Seattle, 3; Denver, 0. Certainly, a statement has been made.

Top strains like this Tahoe OG are obvious champs, even when still on the vine.



San Francisco Medical Cannabis Cup, Craneway Pavilion, June 23-24, 2012



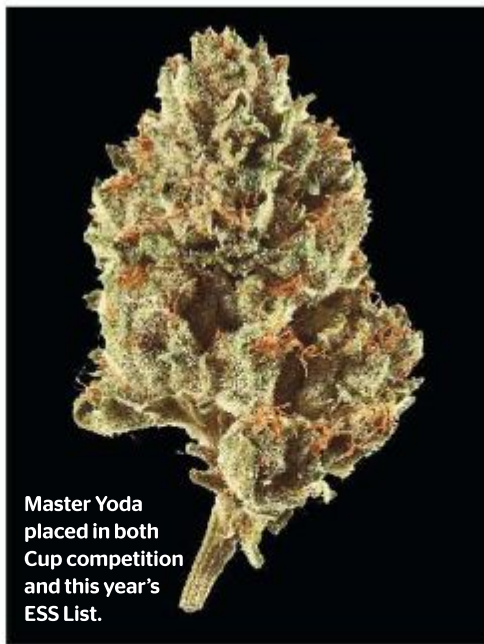
Testing Labs: SC Labs, Santa Cruz, and CW Analytical Laboratories, Oakland, CA

22.4%
THC

Master Yoda

Kush Connection
(2nd Place Indica Cup)

You may have noticed that, interestingly enough, many of the strongest strains on this list didn't actually win Cups, which simply goes to show that potency isn't everything. However, when one does win—like this Master Yoda, which took home second place for Best Indica in SF last June—it tells you that the strain has the right combination of strength, flavor, aesthetics and smokability.



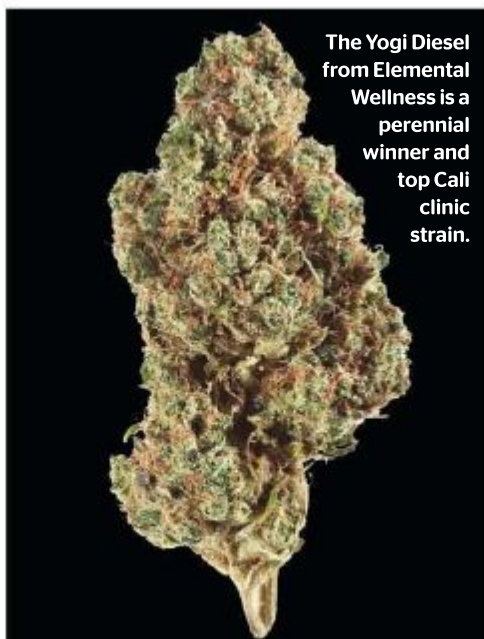
Master Yoda placed in both Cup competition and this year's ESS List.

22%
THC

Tahoe OG Kush

Harborside Health Center, Oakland

Our good friends at Harborside never disappoint, and this OG pheno is pheno-menal. Originating in the Tahoe region of NorCal and migrating south in clone form, this strain was grown in soil using the Dutch nutrient line House & Garden. At 22% THC, there's not a whole lot of tweaking that needs to be done here.



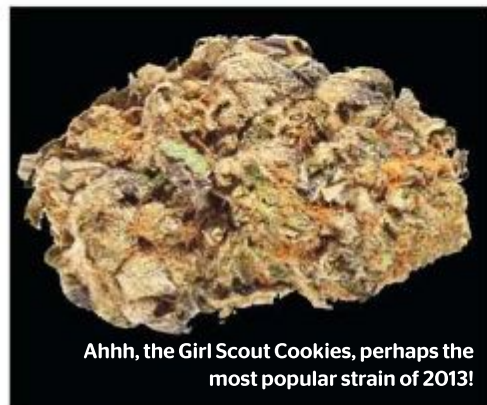
The Yogi Diesel from Elemental Wellness is a perennial winner and top Cali clinic strain.

21.2%
THC

Thin Mint Girl Scout Cookies

Waterfall Wellness Health Center

If you haven't heard about the Cookies craze yet, get ready, because the next big strain is already here and flying off the shelves. This original rendition borrows its name from the "Thin Mint" genre, but today she's better known simply as Girl Scout Cookies, with a spicy, cinnamon-sweet flavor and glistening trichomes all over her dark green leaves. Though her origins are still relatively unknown (other than that she hails from California), reports have her as some kind of Kush cross—possibly Bubba—with some Purple genetics mixed in. And when grown right, she checks in at over 21% THC. Yum!



Ahhh, the Girl Scout Cookies, perhaps the most popular strain of 2013!

21.7%
THC

Yogi Diesel

Elemental Wellness
(2nd Place Sativa Cup)

Here's a unique blend of buds rarely seen on the West Coast: an original East Coast Sour Diesel x Diesel x Northern Lights #5. This near-back-cross with a splash of sativa (from the NL #5) takes Diesel potency to new heights, tipping the scales at nearly 22% THC and winning second-place Sativa Cup honors in Richmond, CA, last summer. Oh, yeah, plus the name kicks ass—huh, Boo-Boo?

20.50%
THC

XJ-13/Cracker Jack

Santa Cruz Mountain Natural
(3rd Place Sativa Cup)

A strain that goes by many names, the XJ-13 is now a very popular sativa hybrid of Jack Herer x G-13. The G-13, of course, is a nice, fat "In your face!" to Uncle Sam, which allegedly developed the strain in a government program decades ago. Funny thing is that, at the time, G-13 was rumored to be the strongest strain on earth—and now here we are today, posting her offspring at 20.5% THC. Guess it wasn't a rumor, huh?

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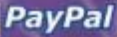

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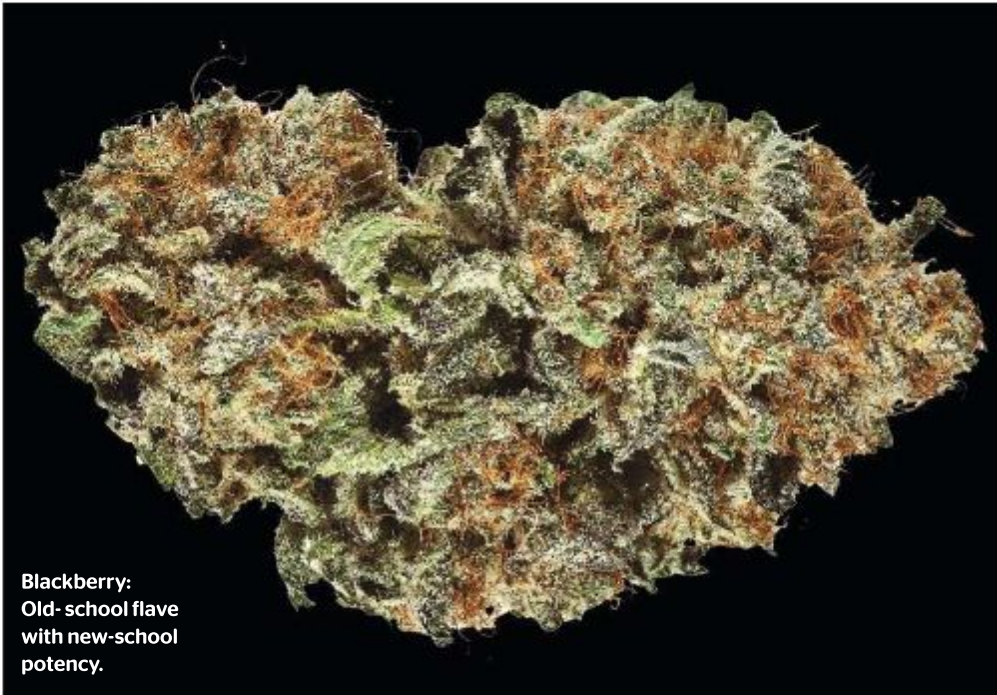
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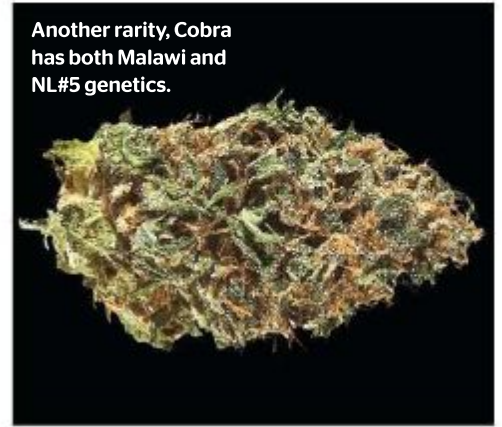
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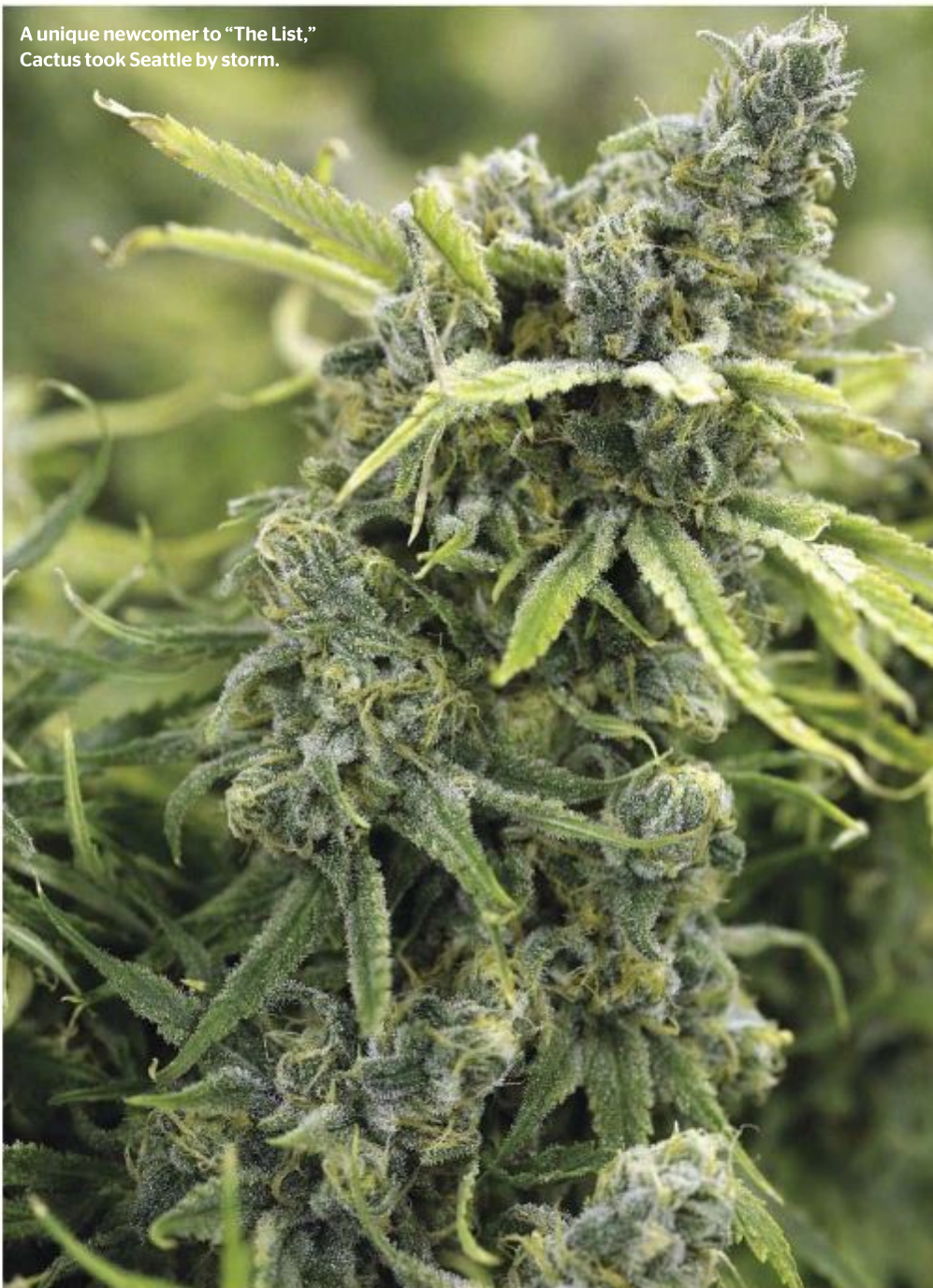


Another rarity, Cobra
has both Malawi and
NL#5 genetics.

**Seattle Medical Cannabis
Cup, Fremont Studios,
September 15-16, 2012**



*Testing Labs: Analytical 360 and
NW Botanical Analysis, Seattle*



A unique newcomer to "The List,"
Cactus took Seattle by storm.

20.17%
THC

Blackberry

Altercare

An old favorite, this Blackberry entry is suspected to have a splash of Bubba Kush in her lineage, which could explain the healthy dose of THC this particular strain exhibited. Grown indoors, this strain is a heavy yielder; grown outdoors, she's extremely resistant to the hazards of nature. And at 20% THC, this spicy berry bud showed off some real old-school genetics—a reminder that we can always learn a lot from the past.

20.15%
THC

Cactus

Dockside Co-Op

(1st Place Hybrid Cup)

Our first-ever Medical Cannabis Cup in Seattle brought out some unique blends that combined serious flavor and potency—like this Hybrid Cup winner, simply named Cactus. A cross between Dutch Treat and Northern Lights #5, this strain was organically grown indoors and boasted a fruity Haze taste and power that had the judges giving it high marks ... very *high* marks, indeed.

20.12%
THC

Cobra

Delta 9 Seattle

Talking about unique strains, here's another first-timer we'd never seen before: Cobra. This Malawi x Northern Lights #5 hybrid also does best organically and was grown indoors with a staggering flower time of 11.5 weeks! The wait was worth it, though, as the Cobra makes the big list in her first-ever Cup appearance.

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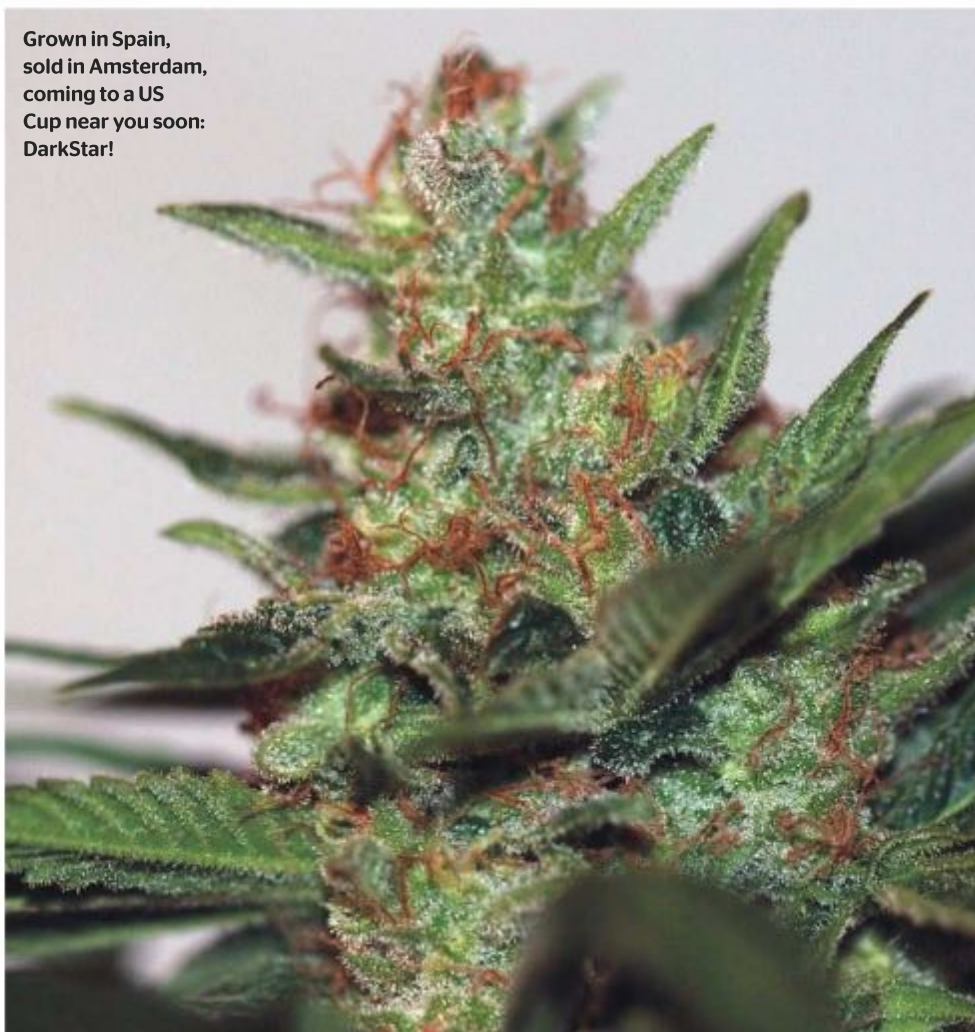
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22%
THC

DarkStar

T.H.Seeds Iberica

T.H.Seeds Iberica, the latest outpost of the Amsterdam-based dank dynamo T.H.Seeds, made quite the impression at their Cannabis Cup debut in November. Their near-pure *indica* DarkStar brings some old-school favorites back into the mix, including Afghani genetics and the fabled Mazar strain from the very same region (lineage: Purple Kush [Hindu Kush x Purple Afghani] x Mazar-i-Sharif). She was specially grown organically for the Cannabis Cup, and some believe she can go even higher than the 22% mark—which is nice, but not really necessary.

21.7%
THC

Dog

Breeders' Boutique

Listed as a 75/25 *indica* hybrid, this Headband x OG Kush is actually 75% OG and 25% Sour Diesel, with a genetic lineage that really looks more like (OG Kush x East Coast Sour Diesel) x OG Kush. Entered at the 25th High Times Cannabis Cup in Amsterdam by newcomer Breeders' Boutique, the flower exuded those Chem family flavors that seem to have eluded Dutch growers for the past decade, making it a top contender in the powerhouse *indica* category in November.



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**21.5%
THC**

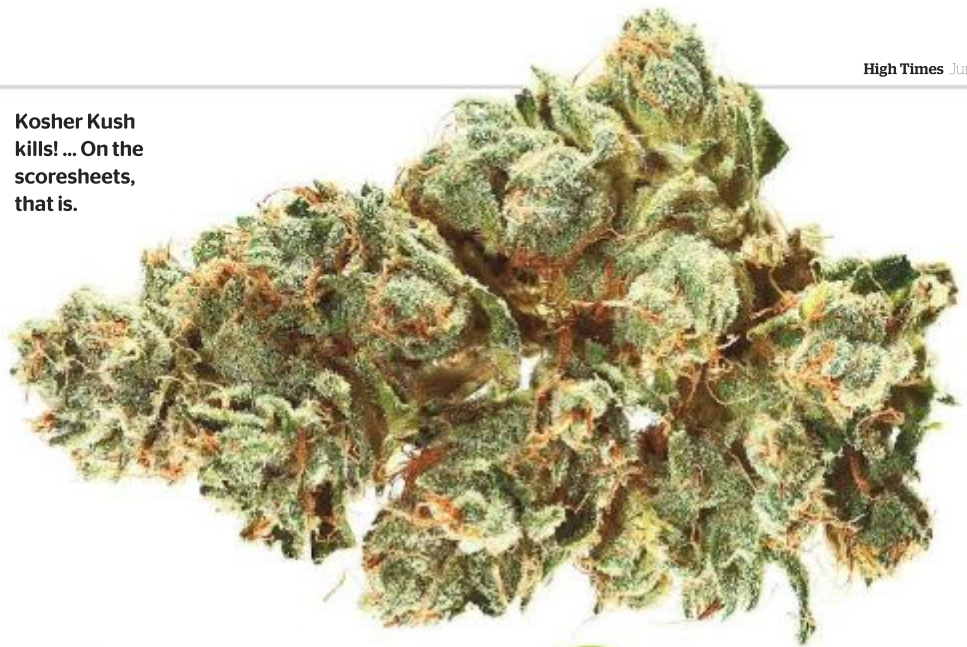
Sour Amnesia

*HortiLab
(2nd Place Sativa Cup)*

If you don't know the brand yet, get used to hearing about it. Since their debut at the 2009 Cannabis Cup, HortiLab have taken home an award with every attempt. Last year was no exception, as the HortiLab team grabbed second place with Sour Amnesia, which tipped the scales with their highest potency to date, at 21.5% THC. A *sativa*-heavy cross of East Coast Sour Diesel and Amnesia, this strain gets her Hazy qualities from the latter parent, which hails from southern Holland. Her East Coast (US) mother brings the trichome-rich potency that landed her a place on the list.

Sour Amnesia, another brilliant work of art from HortiLab.

Kosher Kush kills! ... On the scoresheets, that is.

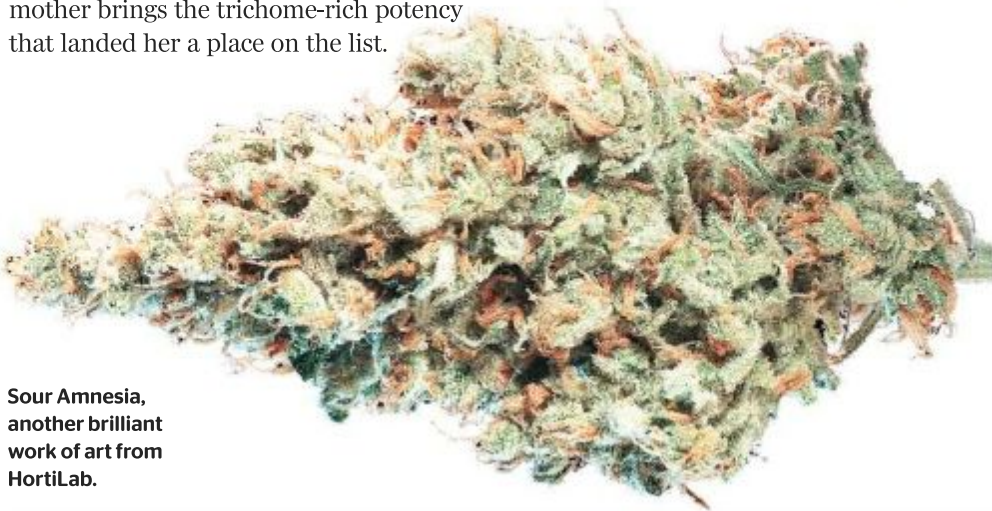


**21%
THC**

Kosher Kush

*Reserva Privada
(1st Place Indica Cup)*

Oh, the Kosh! Since her debut in 2010, this lovely lady has racked up win after win at cannabis competitions around the world. Sometimes described as a balanced hybrid, sometimes called *indica*-dominant, this strain just may be the most popular of all the OG phenos. This entry came in slightly under last year's 22.68% lab result, but as a consistent "over 20" on the THC scale, the Kosher Kush figures to be a regular on our annual list of one-hit wonders. 🌿



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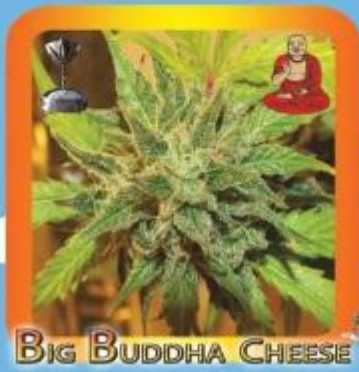
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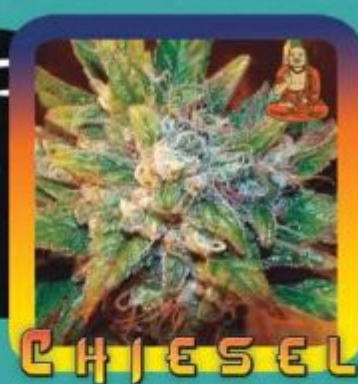
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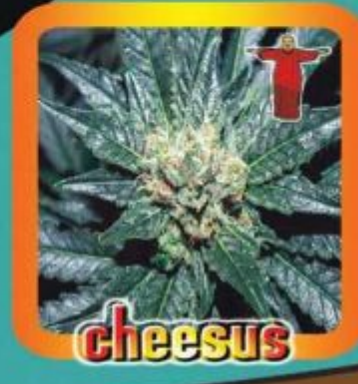
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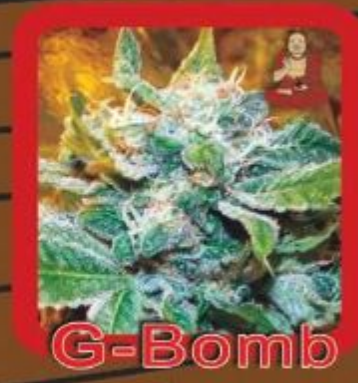
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Building the Ultimate Root Zone

The first few days of a plant's life are often overlooked, but they are among the most crucial to success. Getting the best root system possible at this stage will not only increase your final yield dramatically; it will also result in healthier plants. *Story & Photos by Baron Wasteland*



- 4** (1) These empty peat pellets are ready to be soaked in nutrient solution for optimum absorption. (2) Here's all the necessary equipment for root zone success every time. (3) Place the pump securely at one end of your tray. (4) The screen support sits above the large tray. (5) The inline filter is attached to the pump. (6) Tubing attachments keep the flow of solution going to all cuttings. (7) Tubing sends solution to individual rockwool cubes. (8) Healthy white roots spring forth from the medium.

Tapping Your Roots

Here, we will outline the ultimate method for getting an outrageous root system for your plant from day one, letting you make the most of your time and space, with a faster-growing plant that can support more flowers. We'll cover how to easily make a homemade hybrid dripper system with integrated air pruning, which makes young plants produce an abundance of fresh, healthy roots. We'll also explore in depth the optimum feeding regimen so that your young plants get farther, faster, with their first tender steps—kind of like a kindergarten for your little green babies.



Shopping List

To get the ultimate root zone using this system, you will need to acquire the following (you may already have a lot of this kicking around):

- 3-inch rockwool cubes (1-inch hole, standard height)*
- Peat pellets (disks of dried, compressed peat that expand in water)*
- A large plant tray (it must be at least twice as large as the space needed for your rockwool, at least 3 inches deep and watertight)*
- A smaller plant tray for the tiny seedling stage (optional)*
- A hard metal screen to sit on top of the large plant tray (cheap greenhouse shelving works well)*
- A midsize pump suitable for dripper systems*
- An in-line filter between the pump and dripper manifold*
- A dripper manifold, to split the drip tube to each plant*
- Dripper tubing (buy a couple feet or meters more than you need)*
- Dripper stakes*
- A 24-hour timer, with 15-minute segments.*

A Gentle Weaning

There are plenty of articles about cloning and planting seeds, so let's skip that part and assume you're already gleefully about to take some cuttings or plant some seeds in preparation for the next crop.

All healthy root zones are born from high-quality soil or hydroponic substrate. Seasoned growers all have their favorite starter medium, whether it's soil, rockwool, perlite, clay pellets or coco. Any of these work just fine. But we don't want to settle for "fine"—we want the *ultimate!*

Peat pellets with no added nitrogen (N), phosphorous (P) and potassium (K) for the first couple of days provide the best start for many of our favorite plants. Peat pellets are full of gentle, natural nutrients, so by using them at this early stage, we give an organic weaning to the plant when it is at its most fragile. (This will ease the transition if you switch to mineral feed later in the grow.) Peat pellets also have a little more moisture retention than rockwool, which we'll use to our advantage in the next few stages.

Soak the peat pellets in some warm water, pH-adjusted to 5.6. At this stage, you should *not* add any NPK fertilizer, only a little root booster (Rhizotonic or similar). Adding *Trichoderma* fungus at this stage too (BioPac/Aktrivator or similar) creates an amazing secondary root system that grows with your plants' own roots, allowing more efficient nutrient uptake and also guarding against pythium and other substrate horrors. Using a good enzyme product throughout the cycle helps the rhizosphere (i.e., root zone) stay healthy, process dead tissue and convert it more quickly into nutrients.



Fast-Flushing the Rockwool
After the first roots peek out from within your peat pellets, it's time to transplant into your rockwool cubes. Before you do this, you need to remove the residual lime in the rockwool from manufacturing. This must be flushed out fully to prevent the substrate's internal pH being raised way too high.

A common misconception is that rockwool progressively raises the pH of your plants. This is untrue; rockwool is pH-stable once flushed properly. The reason pH can rise in the substrate is actually the plants' active growth, so this is a good sign—as long as you correct it back down before it gets too high. (More on this later.)

A common practice is to soak the rockwool cubes overnight, but this is time-consuming. A much faster process is the three-stage flush. First, soak them in hot water, squeezing them around and generally being a little rough with them to break the cubes up a bit, which gives them a fast flush of the lime. Leave them to soak for five minutes, then squeeze the cubes out and discard all this liquid.

Flush two is in hot water again, but you can treat the cubes nicer this time—just a few light squeezes under the water, then let them soak for half an hour. Discard this water. The third flush is done with lukewarm water adjusted to pH 5.5, in which the cubes are left to soak for half an hour. Discard this solution and squeeze most of the liquid out of your cubes. Now your rockwool is ready to receive the nutrients and plants!

Because our babies already have roots peeking out from the peat pellet, we can now prepare a very light solution of veg-stage NPK nutrients, root booster, seaweed extract and *Trichoderma* for the rockwool. At this stage, we take the mix to only 1.1 EC from seed (1.2 EC if from cuttings) and bring the solution to pH 5.5. Soak your rockwool cubes in this solution for an hour. Carefully drop your plants into the rockwool, gently close up any gaps between the peat pellet and the cube, then sit back and feel pleased with yourself.



12 (9) Always test the entire system before adding live cuttings to your regimen. (10) Each individual cube has its own dripper stake providing nutrient solution to the root zone. (11) The first new cluster of roots peeks out of the growing medium showing the potential of the ultimate root zone program. (12) A closeup of emerging roots shows healthy white growth ready to be pruned.

Nutrient solution is pumped through the rockwool, dripping out below into the tray to create an active recirculating system.

Hydroponic Kindergarten

Now it's time to assemble our incredible ultimate-rooting hydroponic system. We will keep the plants in this system only for a week to 10 days, but it gives them the best possible start before you install them in their final home. Nutrient solution is pumped through the rockwool, dripping out below into the tray to create an active recirculating system.

The magic comes with the screen: As the roots grow through, they hit the air and the tips die off, triggering an explosion of new root growth from within. We time the plants' feeding schedule and adjust the nutrient composition to encourage the most extreme roots possible before we transplant them to their final site.

Sterilize your trays, pump and screen. Diluted hydrogen peroxide or isopropyl alcohol works well and doesn't leave any residue that's unfriendly to plants. Put your small tray down on the bench and attach your pump to the base, toward

the back end of the tray and away from the center. Lay your screen over the tray. Next, fit your in-line filter to your pump, then your dripper manifold and tubing. The pump filter and manifold should be sticking up through the hard screen.

It's better to use the smaller plant tray at this early stage, because you won't need to make up such large quantities of feed just to get the depth high enough for the pump to work efficiently. Using fewer nutrients is more economical and better for the environment, with less waste solution. As the plants grow too large for the small tray, you can simply lift the screen, pump, plants and dripper, all in one convenient movement and swap the bottom tray for a larger one.

If your screen is unsupported anywhere, you can place a couple of metal rods across the top of the tray under the screen, supporting the weight of your wet rockwool. Alternative methods are to fold up the screen edges carefully to give some rigidity or, better yet, just get a larger

screen and cut it to fit, leaving an inch or so of overlap all around the large tray.

Think about your plants' spacing and cut your dripper delivery tubing to reach each one easily, but avoid leaving masses of excess tubing to get in the way when the plants are tiny and bunched closer together. Depending on the strain you're growing, you may need to allow for as much as a 12-inch circumference of space per plant by the time they're ready to transplant again (in about 10 days).

Now it's time to install the plants. Place them directly onto the screen and push a dripper stake into each rockwool cube. It's easiest to work from the one closest to the pump outward. If you're working with seedlings, they are still absolutely tiny at this stage, so you can bunch up the cubes to make the best use of your light coverage, then space them out as they grow so that none of the plants ever touch each other at this early stage. If young plants feel restricted, they won't develop good lateral branching.



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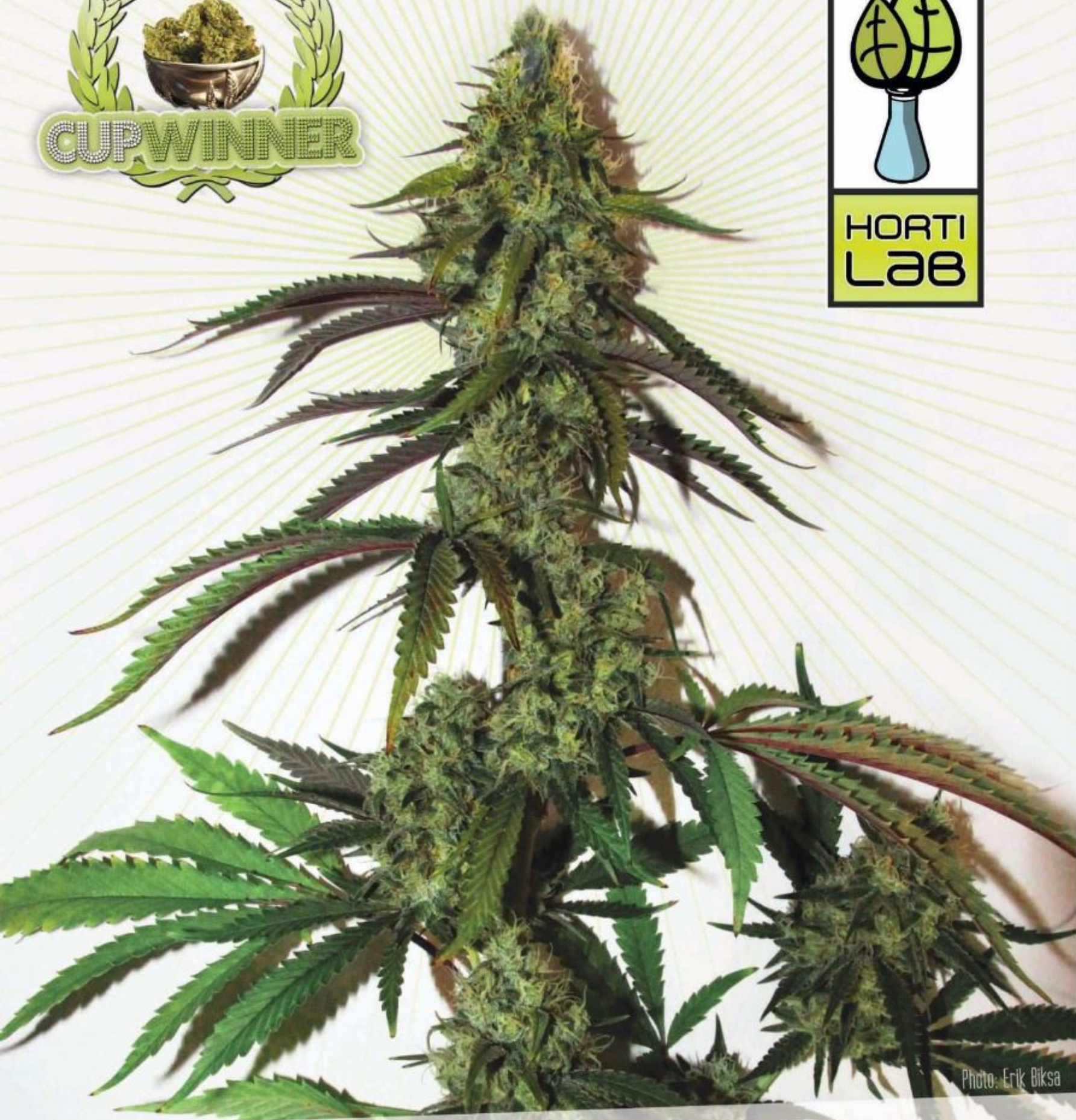


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Optimizing Your Feeding Schedule

Make a full-spectrum vegetative-stage nutrient solution with NPK plus micronutrients and root booster. We still need to keep the solution light at this stage, so we mix until we measure 1.1 EC for seedlings, 1.2 EC for cuttings. Tip this into your tray, which conveniently acts as your tank as well. Test that the pump and dripper are working as they should be, with an even flow from all the dripper stakes.

The nutrient solution should fill each cube and drip through back into the reservoir from multiple points at the base of the cube. Also, make sure the dripper tubing isn't pulling the stake back into the plastic wrapper on the rockwool or you'll risk some of the nutrient solution running down the outside and missing the young plant altogether.

If growing from seed, increase the nutrient strength to an EC of 1.2 after the plants have been in the rockwool for three days, and keep it there until transplanting next week.

Often, when people use dripper systems, they use a very fast timer to replace only a small amount of nutrient solution per feed. This approach will lead to inaccurate pH measurements, since as the plant grows, the pH inside the cube rises

too—and by only replacing tiny amounts of nutrient solution, you're simply compounding that problem! But by running the pump for 15 minutes at a time, you allow the fresh nutes to permeate every part of the cube, pushing out the old solution. You should see it dripping out from different points across the base.



When the plants are first installed in the rockwool, the roots will be minuscule inside the peat pellets, so we only run the pump once a day for 15 minutes in the morning, since we want the cube to dry out slightly over the day to stimulate root growth. As soon as you see the first roots coming out of the base of the rockwool cube, run the pump twice a day, in the morning and early afternoon. When these first protruding roots have withered and died back and you see

the reactive cluster that follows leaping out of the base, you know the system has worked. Keep the feed strength at 1.2 EC, the pH at 5.5 and feed this four times a day, 15 minutes each time. Have the last feed about two hours before lights out.

As the plants grow, you will see the most outrageous root system emerge. Allow the roots at the bottom of the cube to die repeatedly and hold your nerve—keep them on the screen for about another week, until the cube is carpeted in fresh, vibrant roots. Increase the number of feedings per day gradually over the week, judging by how long it takes for the cubes to feel lighter. By the time the plants are ready to move on, you will need to feed them about eight times per day (in an 18-hour veg “day”), since there are too many roots to fit in the cube and the plants will be thirsty and dry out fast. This is why the extra water-retentive properties of the peat pellet work in our favor now, by holding a little extra moisture for longer right at the core.

Peek down the side of the plastic wrapper and you should see a mass of pure, healthy white roots, looking like the cube in the picture. The plants are now ready to transplant into their final home. Enjoy your massive yield! ✨

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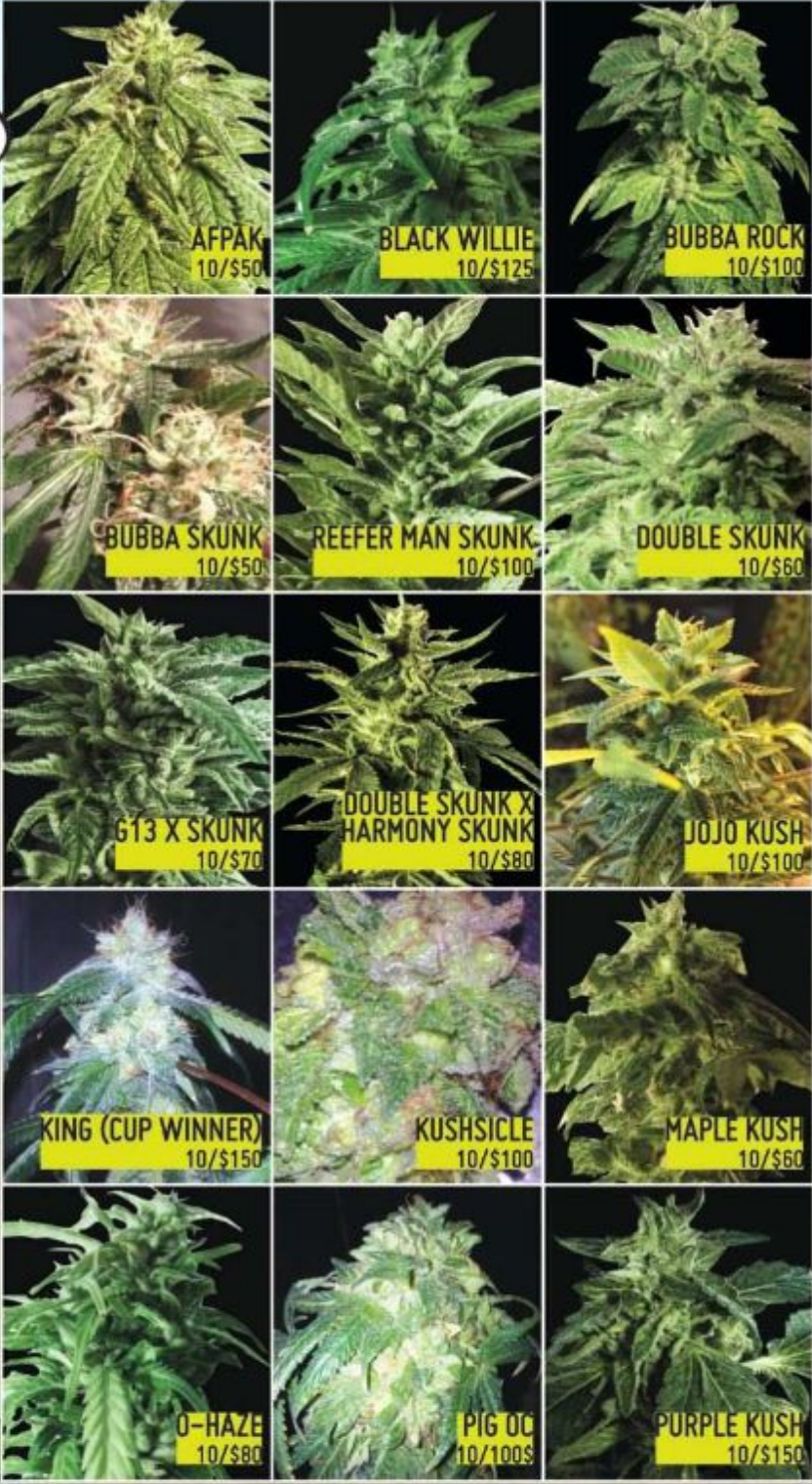
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The Purps

With cannabis now legal in two states, Ken Estes of the Grand Daddy Purp Collective gets his operation ready to compete with Big Tobacco, Wall Street, corporate America and a brand-new breed of high-flying pot entrepreneur. *By David Bienenstock. Photos by Lochfoot*

Ken Estes graduated from high school in June 1976, a promising student athlete who'd lettered in three sports, earning a college scholarship along the way. A month later, however, a horrific motorcycle accident left him paralyzed from the neck down.

After doing what little they could to help, his doctors prescribed massive doses of pharmaceutical painkillers and deposited Estes in a rehabilitation facility, where he would languish for the next six months, rotting away in a narcotic stupor. Until, one fine day, he met a group of Vietnam vets—patients at the same rehab facility—who offered to share some of the marijuana they'd been using medicinally to treat and heal both body and mind. The teenage paraplegic had never smoked pot in his life but felt he had little to lose.

"My nurse wheeled me over to them and then took a hit himself before holding the joint up to my lips," Estes recalls. "When they brought me back to my room, I slept all night and woke up in the morning with an appetite. During the previous six months on pills, I hadn't slept like that and hardly ate. I'm over six feet tall, and I went from weighing 160 pounds down to 100."

Today, Estes remains in a wheelchair, but he's regained limited use of his upper body. He credits marijuana with providing not just the healing but also the hope required to overcome adversity and become the driving force behind one of California's leading medical marijuana collectives.

"Really, that first puff was the turnaround in my life," he says. "I was going to die in that terrible condition—until this herb made me hungry and helped me sleep,

Patrol

Beneath air-cooled 1,000-watt lights, the Grand Daddy Purp grow team cultivates medicinal-grade cannabis.



so that I could start to recover.”

Named for Estes’ signature strain, the Grand Daddy Purp Collective retains deep roots in the Bay Area, where it currently provides a full range of top-quality cannabis medicine, seeds and clones to legal medical marijuana users out of a storefront location in Richmond, CA, with plans to distribute soon via more than a dozen leading dispensaries throughout the state. In 2011, the collective’s Bay 11 entry took home top honors at the High Times Medical Cannabis Cup in San Francisco, while Granddaddy Purp ranks among the most recognized names in kind bud history.



At six weeks, Granddaddy Purp begins to turn purple; a week later, it expresses its full coloration.

Estes and his team gather at an undisclosed location tucked away in a nondescript industrial park, where they grow their top strains in strict accordance with California's medical marijuana laws. Running a collective, at least in California, remains shrouded in a legal gray area, but that doesn't stop Grand Daddy Purp's strategic team from planning for a far different future.

"We're positioning ourselves so that, as things go more corporate, we're already there," says Ernie Cefalu, a graphic-design and marketing expert who's working closely with Estes to help build the collective from a mom-and-pop-style operation into a fully integrated, fully optimized brand capable of surviving and even thriving in post-pot-prohibition America. "Now that Colorado and Washington have made it legal, that genie will never go back in the bottle. So we've got to ask ourselves three questions: How can we best bring America this great product? How can we create good jobs while doing so? And how can we be a benefit to society?"

Cefalu—who earned legendary status in the 1970s by designing album covers and artwork for Cheech & Chong, Alice Cooper, George Carlin and *Jesus Christ Superstar*—remains best known as the artist behind the original Rolling Stones

lips-and-tongue logo. Later, he went on to a long and prosperous career in brand development for some of the nation's largest corporations.

"I worked for Fortune 50 companies, and I know that some of them are seriously looking at this industry with bated breath, just waiting," Cefalu explains. "When corporate America shows up with the big checkbook—the one that can accommodate all those zeros—they're going to be looking for companies that have all the moving pieces working together in harmony, like a fine Swiss watch. And I don't think we have much further to go before that starts to happen."

Cefalu's first encounter with the Granddaddy Purp strain came when he was searching not for business, but for relief. Stricken with cancer in 1999, Cefalu ended up so zonked on pills during his recovery—"literally drooling on myself"—that a concerned friend who happened to be in the know when it came to cannabis suggested tracking down some of that purple weed that was going around. Word had it that the stuff really worked for pain.

"I spent 3,000 bucks that year buying Granddaddy Purp from every collective I went into, because they all had it," Cefalu recounts. "But you know what? None of them had it for real—until I met these guys:"

That proliferation of imitators was one reason he encouraged the collective to begin offering its strains exclusively through authorized dispensaries—which could then, in turn, assure their customers that they were getting the genuine article direct from the source.

The Strain Seeker

Estes' journey as a marijuana grower and breeder began with a tiny, one-light hydroponic setup in the closet of the one-room apartment he lived in right after leaving the rehab facility. At first, he didn't even know enough to switch the light cycle to 12/12 to induce flowering.

After getting well acquainted with the day's top imported *sativas*, such as Thai Stick, Panama Red and Colombian Gold, Estes next devoted serious time and effort to investigating the new generation of hybrid varieties that ingenious local breeders were just then developing to flourish indoors. When he heard wild tales about something called Skunk, he took an eight-hour drive up into the Humboldt Hills to seek out some for himself.

"You had to go up there," Estes says, "because otherwise the best stuff never leaves the area—everybody keeps it for their own heads."

He still fondly recalls the first time

Granddaddy Purp



HIGH TIMES
GRANDDADDY PURP





Bay 11





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he encountered the variety that would become his calling card in the world of cannabis. Fortunately, by the time a Black-foot Indian he'd befriended in southern Humboldt came to him with a gift of the original Granddaddy Purp, Estes understood exactly how to grow it out, collect the pollen and backcross it. He also knew to let his mother plants flower out each year and then start new mothers in order to keep the strain strong and preserve its potent *indica* lineage for future generations.

Marijuana Movement

In 1993, Estes got directly involved in the burgeoning medical marijuana movement after reading a newspaper account of the arrest (and later release) of Brownie Mary, who famously provided thousands of free marijuana-infused desserts to San Francisco AIDS and cancer patients long before it was legal. Estes was so inspired by her story that he had the article laminated and kept it in his wallet, with plans to show it to the cops if they ever busted him.

"It was like my first cannabis card," he says.

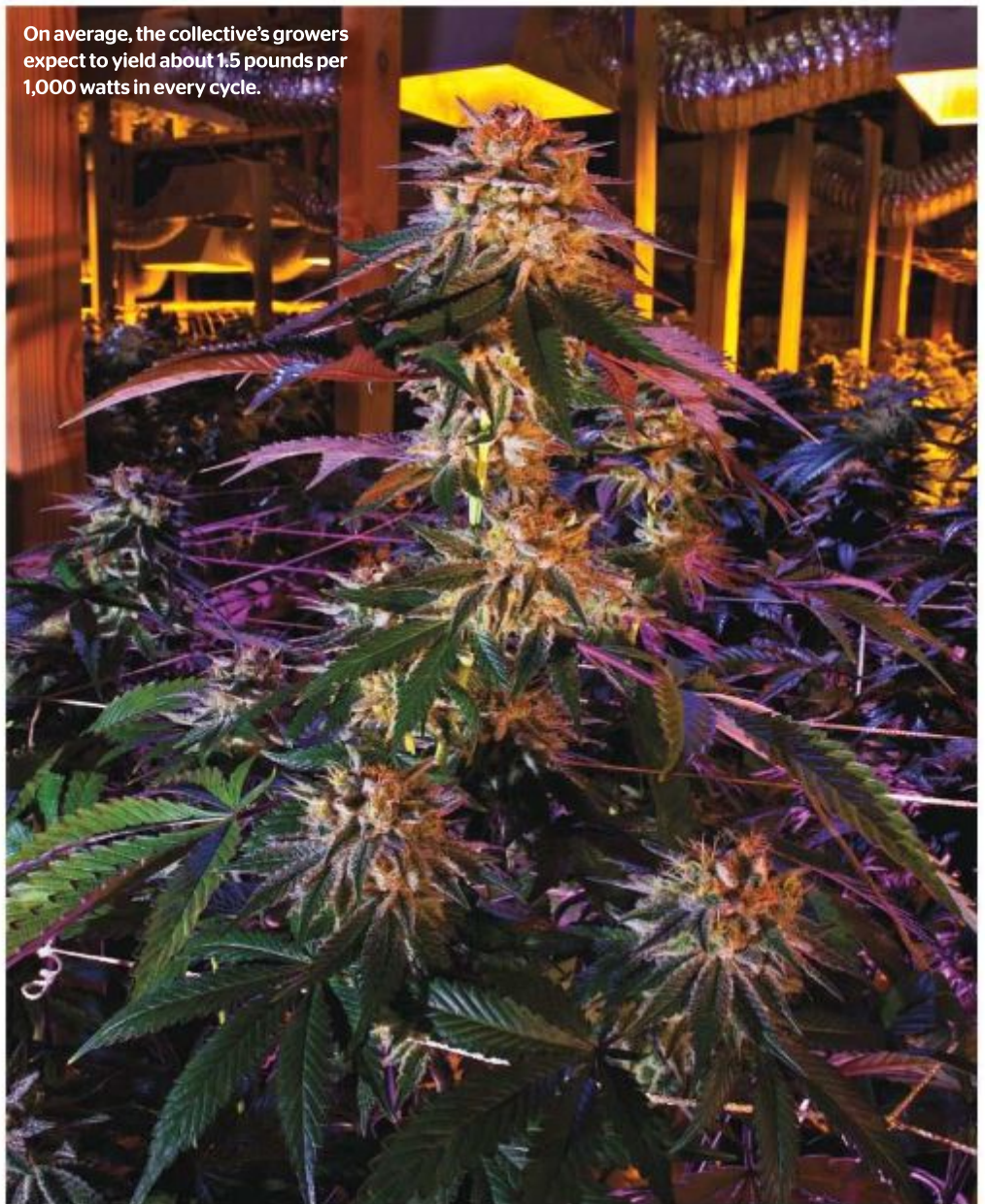
Spurred on by Brownie Mary's example, Estes quit working at the string of successful tanning salons he'd opened after graduating from Cal State and turned his attention full-time to the fight for medical marijuana. Well aware of all the plant had done for him, he felt a responsibility to speak up against the oppression of patients who used it for healing—especially those who couldn't speak for themselves.

"A lot of people get broken down or even beaten when they're in a wheelchair, but I hadn't," he declares. "I had the energy and the gumption to get out there and tell the truth: that medical marijuana patients needed safe access to a better alternative, because the pills were *killing* us."

After working with Denis Peron and other early pioneers of medical marijuana distribution, Estes opened one of the very first storefront collectives in California, not long after Proposition 215 made it the first state to legalize medical marijuana. A string of openings and closings would follow, as Estes formed and folded collectives throughout the Bay Area amid a series of armed robberies and law-enforcement raids that left him frequently at odds with the local government—and even some erstwhile allies in the medical marijuana movement.

A stony survivor of the many ups and downs in the medical marijuana movement, he's managed to roll with the punches ever since—and, in the end, may even come out on top.

On average, the collective's growers expect to yield about 1.5 pounds per 1,000 watts in every cycle.



"When corporate America shows up with the big checkbook—the one that can accommodate all those zeros—they're going to be looking for companies that have all the moving pieces working together in harmony, like a fine Swiss watch."

Inside the Grand Daddy Growroom

"I knew the Granddaddy Purp was really special the first time I smoked it," Estes recalls as he enters a beautifully maintained growroom full of that famed strain and half a dozen others. "That's why I gave it to my growers and offered them a premium to produce it. My first collective went from five people on the first day to 500 in the first month, and then on up to 5,000."

Estes has designed this entire operation to allow him full access in his wheelchair, including the large vegetative and flowering rooms and the smaller spaces for drying, trimming and curing.

Neatly arranged beneath air-cooled 1,000-watt lights, rows of Granddaddy Purp, Girl Scout Cookies, Ken's Kush, Phantom and even some experimental

varieties sprout up stout and sticky. Ken and his small cultivation team typically space out six plants beneath each light, harvesting 25 percent of the garden every two weeks—a steady supply of medicine that arrives in manageable amounts.

"With the Granddaddy Purp, the white hairs on the bud will start to turn red towards the end," Estes notes after closely inspecting a bud that's nearing full maturity. "We wait until it gets to about 50 percent red hairs before we harvest, when the trichomes just start turning amber." On average, the collective's growers expect to yield about 1.5 pounds per 1,000 watts in every cycle. They've been experimenting with both soil and coco-based mediums.

Estes says one of the keys to bringing

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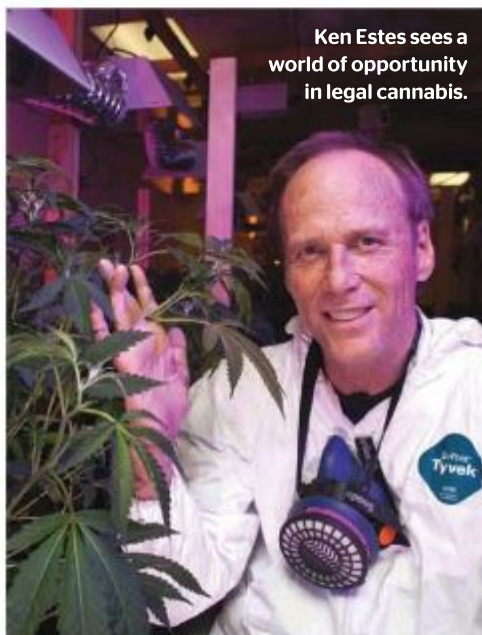


Granddaddy Purp to its full potential is providing plenty of air circulation. This room runs six air conditioners that provide 25,000 BTUs of power each, plus a 10-ton central air conditioner and a powerful charcoal filter on the exhaust system. CO₂ burners at each end create a carbon-rich environment that supports rapid growth, while pulleys attached to the lights allow them to be raised steadily as the plants grow taller, which means they can be kept between 18 and 22 inches away from the canopy, depending on the strain.

At five to six weeks, Estes and his team strip-clean all the lower branches to allow for maximum airflow, while encouraging each plant to fully develop its uppermost colas until they're thick with round, dense, sticky nugs. They also lower a net to support the branches, as the weight of so many swelling buds makes the plants dangerously top-heavy.

At six weeks, Granddaddy Purp begins to turn purple; a week later, it expresses its full coloration. "You can make any strain turn purple at the tips by exposing it to low temperatures," Estes says. "But my strain is purple all the way through due to its genetics."

Granddaddy Purp flowers for eight weeks, ideally at 50 percent humidity and



Ken Estes sees a world of opportunity in legal cannabis.

temperatures between 70°F and 78°F. (Above 81°F, the plants will no longer turn purple.) The harvested branches are dried upside down and not on racks, which can damage the buds.

"We hang them upside down so the buds retain their round, spherical shape. That's part of how Granddaddy Purp grows. It's not wispy—it's a solid-cola bud that's very dense. You squeeze it, and it should be like a hardball."

Corporate Cannabis?

Asked point-blank, Estes and Cefalu won't say whether they plan to compete with Wall Street, Big Tobacco and whatever other dark forces capitalism will unleash themselves on the cannabis industry in the near future, or simply line up for a taste of that oversized check-book. But either way, it's clearly important to both of them that people who care about the plant—and the patients—continue to have a strong voice in the way it's grown and sold.

"I do wonder how the whole game will change, with legalization right on the heels of the medical marijuana movement," Estes says. "We've built a local nonprofit model after dealing with law enforcement and adversarial politicians and zoning boards pushing us into strip malls. So what happens when suddenly Walmart starts selling pot—or the liquor store's got it?"

No one can tell what the future holds for a legal cannabis industry. But for the time being, only those with the foresight to plan ahead can reasonably expect to compete in an emerging world where growing the nation's favorite green herb will no longer require breaking the law. ✨

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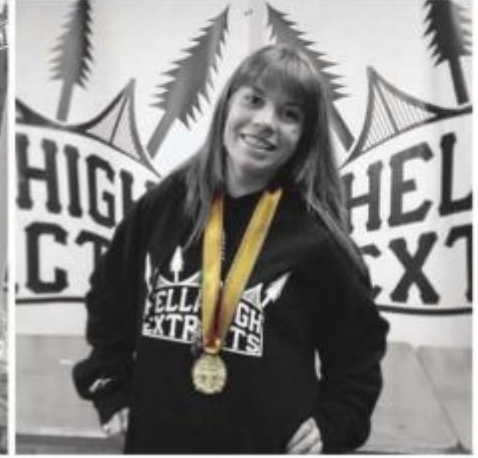
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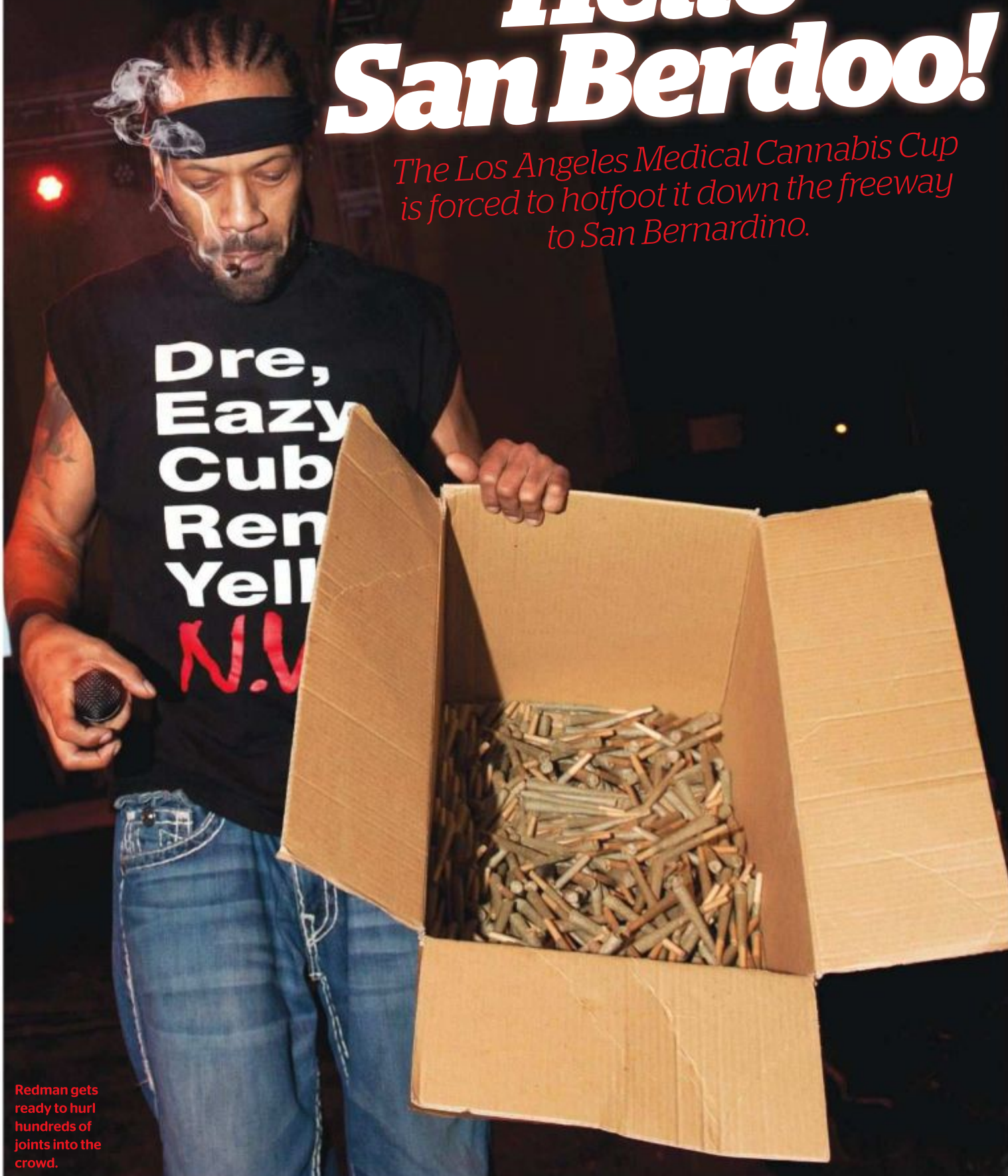
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Bye-Bye LA, Hello San Berdoo!

The Los Angeles Medical Cannabis Cup is forced to hotfoot it down the freeway to San Bernardino.



Redman gets ready to hurl hundreds of joints into the crowd.



7 **“Cannabis can change the world—and we’re here to show it’s possible!”** —Tommy Chong



The *High Times* crew arrived in the City of Angels 10 days prior to our scheduled event. At the time, the local police department seemed otherwise engaged: Christopher Dorner, a disgruntled ex-cop, was waging his self-declared war on police personnel and their families, and the LAPD was engaged in the biggest manhunt in the city’s history to bring him in.

This massive mobilization had already resulted in two separate incidents of cops opening fire on suspects they believed to be Dorner. Two women delivering newspapers miraculously survived after cops fired more than 100 shots into their vehicle, which vaguely matched the description of Dorner’s; another man narrowly escaped death when cops opened up on

him. Certainly, you’d think, the LAPD had bigger fish to fry than shutting down a legal medical marijuana event?

Think again. Even though *High Times* had secured a permit and navigated all the proper channels, the LAPD was loath to allow the Cup to go forward. Supposedly, when the permit was granted for last year’s event, held at the Los Angeles Center Studios, the cops had not been “aware” that the “medication area” was specifically designated for cannabis use. (Apparently, they’d been equally unaware when other pot-themed events at LA Center Studios promoted the same amenity.) But in the interim, they had “discovered” that the complex was situated less than 1,000 feet from a school. As a result, the LA Medical Cannabis Cup was now homeless. Organizers scurried to

sign contracts with nearby Glendale Studios, only to learn that LAPD had quickly notified the city of Glendale as to the nature of the event. An injunction by the City of Glendale was filed against *High Times* to prevent the event from happening there.

Other venues were scouted, but the search proved futile—and without the necessary permit, there could be no Medical Cannabis Cup. Our time in Los Angeles was quickly beginning to seem like an updated version of *Escape From LA*. But just 48 hours before the doors were set to open (or not), *High Times* signed contracts with the National Orange Show Events Center in San Bernardino, about 60 miles east of LA.

Certainly, the announcement of two separate venue changes within 10 days



1. Dab vendors beckoned attendees to their booths.

2. Although the LAPD tried to stop the event, thousands turned out in San Bernardino.

3. A live cannabis plant took in the San Bernardino sunshine.

4. Loud Seeds distributed samples of their top strains.

5. Hostesses at Cloud V lured dab lovers looking for a great vape pen.

6. The Game took a big hit onstage during his Saturday night concert.

7. The Cool Calm Collective's Banana OG took 3rd in the hybrid category.

8. Wherever you strolled in the medication area, a dab station was waiting.

9. Redman elevated the crowd to new heights.

Watch Redman and The Game share a joint on stage at hightimes.com/thegame.



created confusion for ticketholders, and the vendors were equally miffed at the inconvenience. But as we all know, working in the cannabis industry generally means expecting the unexpected. We're outlaws, with the authorities pointedly refusing to grant us the same legal protections that so-called "legitimate" enterprises enjoy. Our industry is in its infancy, still finding its way into the mainstream, and *High Times* is subject to the same bureaucratic dishonesty and harassment that canna-businesses in the United States encounter on a daily basis.

And so questions hovered over the LA Cup as dawn broke. Had the pre-event chaos damaged the weekend irreparably? Would the cannabis community turn out in the numbers we'd been expecting? Amazingly, the event proved to be a

runaway success: the best-attended Medical Cannabis Cup that *High Times* has ever mounted. The temperature climbed into the 80s for the weekend, with clear, gorgeous skies affording a fabulous view of the surrounding mountain scenery.

Thousands of attendees toured the sweeping medication area, a veritable village of Southern California's top canna-product producers. Once again, concentrates proved to be the biggest draw, with scores of booths offering high-grade oils and waxes. Glass smokeware, especially rigs designed for dabbing, sold briskly, while those who wished to make a personal statement regarding their preferred method of cannabis consumption had an array of dab-themed apparel to choose from, adorned with messages like "Just Dab It!" and "Dabs 'R'

Us." However, vendors who offered prime buds to sample were hardly ignored: Dabbing isn't for everyone, and hordes of us still prefer the comfort and simplicity of a joint, which doesn't require a blowtorch or a specially designed contraption for ingestion.

Redman opened the Saturday night concert—and, naturally, he and the crowd were in high spirits, which only got higher as the evening progressed. It's been 20 years now since Redman appeared on the cover of *High Times*, and his popularity in the stoner world has only grown since then. Indeed, his energy exceeded the boundaries of the stage: During the final 10 minutes of his act, Redman leapt up on the fence surrounding the stage and dove into the audience for an epic round of crowd-surfing.

The Game followed Redman. In addition to his rhymes, his time onstage included a number of auxiliary activities: He rolled dice, chugged a full bottle of Grey Goose (actually water), made friends with a middle-aged audience member whom he dubbed “Westlake Ray,” then invited the entire crowd over to Ray’s house. For the finale, Redman joined The Game for “I Wanna Get Fucked Up,” with both rappers sharing a joint and puffing prodigiously. Their high spirits induced Melissa Balin, an LA-based activist, to jump onstage and demonstrate her utter lack of dancing ability, leaving The Game and the audience in stitches.

The weekend ended with the Sunday night awards ceremony, highlighted by the appearance of stoner legend Tommy Chong, who was honored with the Lester Grinspoon Lifetime Achievement Award. Aside from the late, great Jack Herer, granddaddy of the modern cannabis movement, no other individual has been as consistently outspoken about legalizing pot as Chong, whose entire life has been profoundly impacted by the plant. As every reader of this magazine already knows, Tommy became a comedy superstar when he and Richard “Cheech” Marin embraced pot in their legendary Cheech



Tommy Chong, a legend in our time.

and Chong act. He also spent a year in jail for manufacturing his own line of bongos, and now cannabis is a source of medicinal relief as he fights prostate cancer. Tommy graciously thanked his assembled fans, acknowledging his strong allegiance with the cannabis community while offering simple words of encouragement: “Cannabis can change the world—and

we’re here to show it’s possible!”

As for the awards themselves, the Buds and Roses Collective, located in Studio City, visited the stage most frequently, taking top honors in the Best Hash category, two second-place wins for Best Hybrid and Best *Sativa*, and a third-place win in the Best Edible category. Reserva Privada, a subsidiary of DNA Genetics, won first place for Tanj in the *sativa* category. Alpha Medic grabbed the *indica* prize for Godfather OG, and a very tasty rendition of Girl Scout Cookies, courtesy of Life Is Good in Victorville, won the Cup for Best Hybrid. The Best Concentrate award went to Honey B OG Nectar by Green Coast Deliveries.

When the LA Cup was finally over, a sense of triumph—and relief—lingered on. The best efforts of the LAPD to thwart the proceedings had been circumvented, and the SoCal cannabis community had turned out in force to support the event. And while Los Angeles may eventually soften its ridiculously antiquated stance on legal medical cannabis, *High Times* won’t be waiting around. Given the success of this year’s event, San Bernardino will likely be the new setting for the LA Medical Cannabis Cup. We’ve found a new home in the high desert. ✨

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Adderall: America's Fa

It's given to grade-school children with ADD to increase their attention in class, and college students across the country depend on it to cram for exams. But what exactly is Adderall? Is it a miracle pill—or just amphetamine with a marketing team?

by James L. Kent

Sheri* is a junior in college. In the mornings she attends class, and in the afternoons she works at a coffeshop. Sheri has attention-deficit disorder (ADD), and without her medication she has a hard time getting out of the bed in the morning and accomplishing even the most mundane of her daily tasks. Her medication is Adderall, preferably the 30-milligram Adderall XR (extended-release) capsules, but Sheri doesn't have health insurance and can't afford to shell out a couple hundred bucks for the doctor's visit and the \$200 to \$300 a month for the prescription itself. But Sheri is lucky, because she knows Dan*, who sells Adderall XR to college students for \$5 to \$15 a pop, depending on how many pills they're buying. And Dan does good business, because Adderall is America's favorite amphetamine, especially among college students trying to maintain long hours of focus preparing their finals.

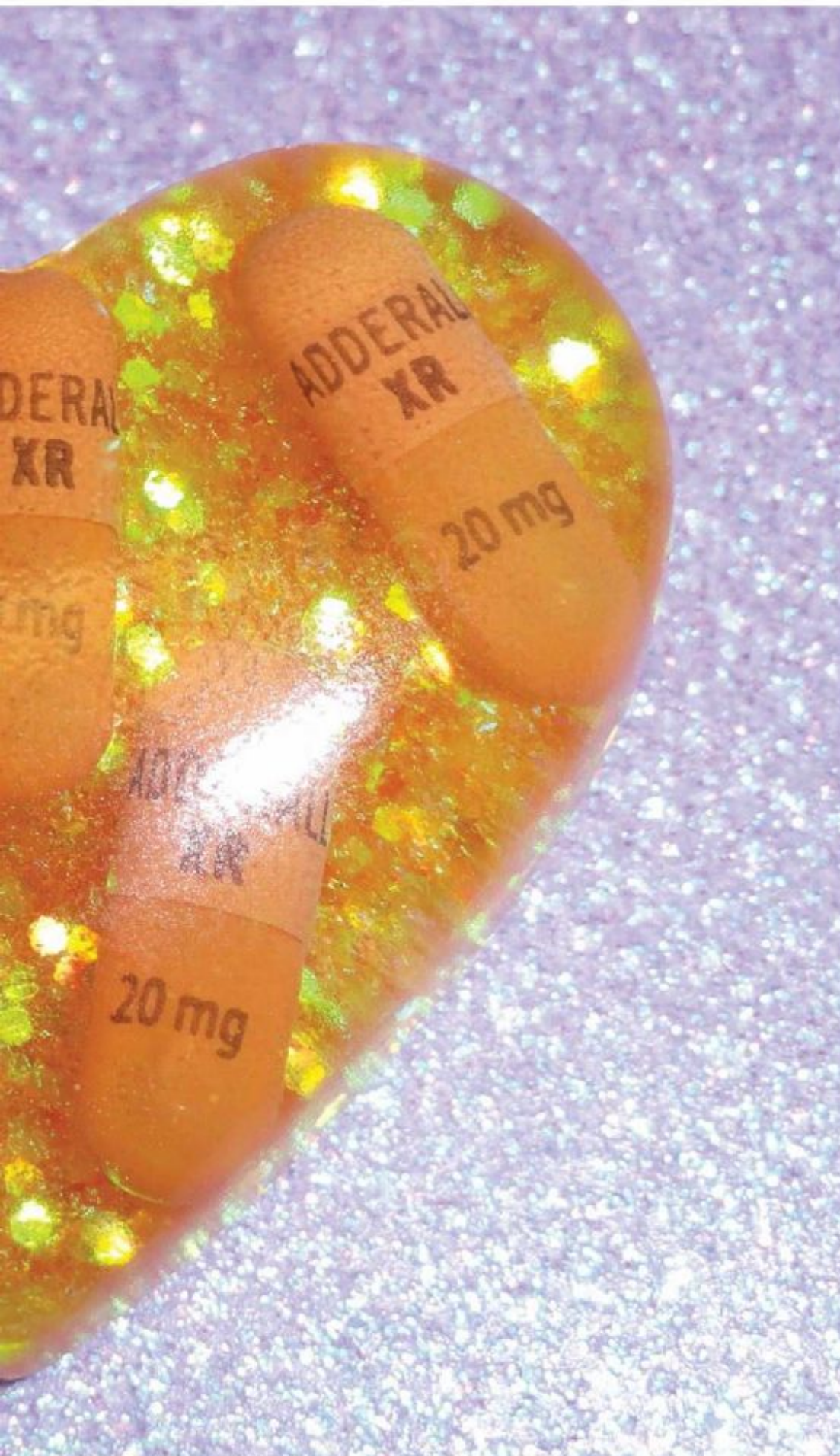
Street-level Adderall dealers (or "traders") can distribute to college students at cheaper-than-retail prices. For uninsured students like Sheri, the retail price of a monthly Adderall prescription works out to \$6 to \$8 a pill.

*Names have been changed.



FUNKY JUNKY

Favorite Amphetamine



If she buys 10 at a time from Dan, however, she gets them for \$3 to \$5 a pill. That's because Dan buys prescriptions for Adderall from students still on their parents' health-insurance plan or from members of the military, who get Adderall prescriptions like monthly paychecks. With a military or insurance discount, you can buy Adderall XR for under \$1 a pill and then sell it for triple to five times the original price. Dan knows he can get

Amphetamine has traditionally been associated with tweakers, speed freaks, bikers, truckers and all-night sex orgies.

\$15 to \$20 a pill for 30 mg XRs from the right people, so a bottle of cheap XRs is like his savings account, his investment portfolio and his spending money all rolled into one. And if he doesn't have the time or money to eat, he can just take an XR and he won't be hungry again for another six hours.

Adderall is a clever brand and a deceptive brand. In America, amphetamine has traditionally been associated with tweakers, speed freaks, bikers, truckers and all-night sex orgies. Adderall changed all that. Stimulants like Ritalin have long been shown to help people with ADD and ADHD (attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder) concentrate for longer periods. So in 1996, Shire Pharmaceuticals introduced Adderall, a patented blend of amphetamine salts, to compete in the market for ADD/ADHD medications. The product was so successful that in 2001, Shire introduced the Adderall XR capsule in order to supply a low but steady dose to users all day long. Adderall XR is marketed as a productivity drug to help people with ADD, ADHD or narcolepsy remain alert and focused, but because it's essentially pure pharmaceutical amphetamine, it quickly became the prescription stimulant of choice for college students, wage laborers, the military and pretty much everybody else.

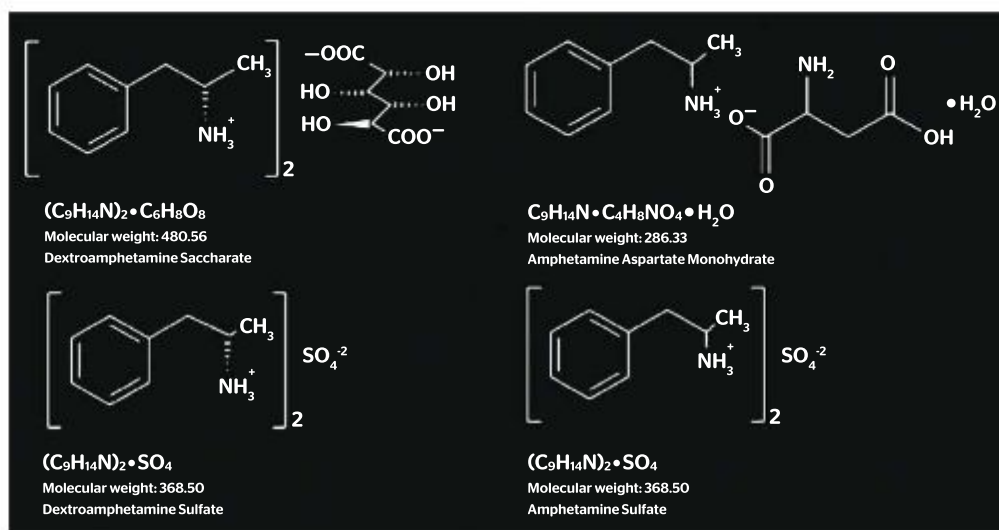


Figure 1: Adderall is the brand name for a patented blend of four different preparations of amphetamine salts: amphetamine aspartate, amphetamine sulfate, dextroamphetamine saccharate and dextroamphetamine sulfate. Adderall is mixed at 75% dextroamphetamine to 25% amphetamine.

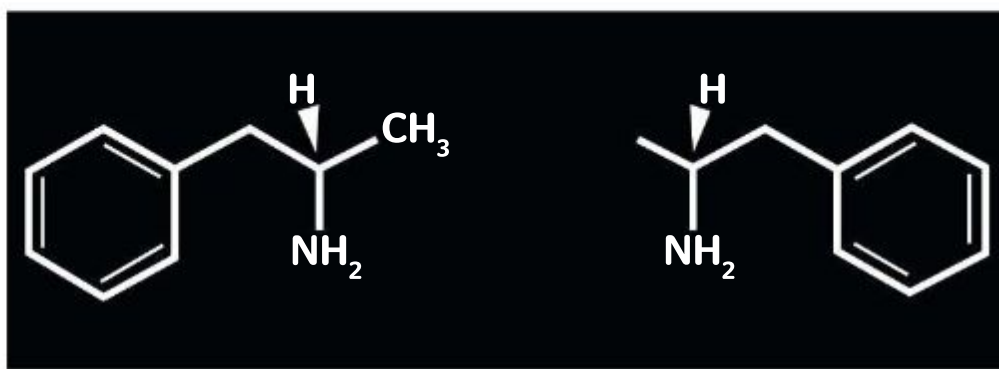


Figure 2: Amphetamine is a simple molecule consisting of a benzene ring with a hydrocarbon and a nitrate group. The images are of levoamphetamine, or l-amphetamine (left), and dextroamphetamine, or d-amphetamine (right).

Ampphetamine was first synthesized in Germany in 1887 and has been used pharmaceutically in the US since 1927. In World War II, amphetamine and dextroamphetamine, under the names benzedrine and dexedrine, were distributed to American soldiers and pilots as “go pills” to combat fatigue and maintain alertness and morale.

Amphetamine causes the release of dopamine and norepinephrine, stress chemicals that make people feel alert, powerful and impulsive, and the high can come on like a rush of invincibility. And even though parents would consider almost anything to help their children cope better in school, the idea of giving speed to ADD/ADHD children to keep them from fidgeting doesn't feel right to most people—in fact, it sounds like insanity. But Shire Pharmaceuticals solved that marketing problem by rebranding amphetamine as Adderall, a “patented blend” of amphetamine salts targeted to treat ADD, ADHD and narcolepsy. (Note that “ADD” right in the name of the brand.) Parents who would balk at

giving their children trucker-style speed are happy to give them Adderall—not because it's a different drug but because it's a brand name you can trust.

The molecule for amphetamine is in the public domain, so it's impossible for a pharmaceutical company to patent it. That means there's no profit to be made by producing amphetamine for pharmaceutical use. But Shire found a way around this problem. Adderall is a custom blend of four different types of amphetamine salts—basically two mirror versions of the amphetamine molecule packaged in four separate ways. This is an old patent-medicine trick: When you're synthesizing a molecule in chemistry, you must attach it to a salt (such as an aspartate or sulphate) so you can easily crystallize or dissolve it. However, you can't patent amphetamine aspartate or amphetamine sulfate—but if you make a custom mix of these salts, you can call it a patent drug, even though both salts carry the exact same amphetamine molecule when they dissolve in the bloodstream (see Figure 1 above).

Most simple psychoactive molecules have mirror counterparts called stereoisomers, and drugs often contain a blend of both isomers, which is called a racemic mix. What is commonly called amphetamine, benzedrine or speed is actually the “left-handed” isomer of the amphetamine molecule, known as levoamphetamine or l-amphetamine. The “right-handed” stereoisomer of amphetamine is dextroamphetamine, also called d-amphetamine or dexedrine (Figure 2).

Isomers of the same molecule, although very similar, often have different effects. For instance, the right-handed isomer of methamphetamine, dextromethamphetamine, is the most potent human stimulant known: This is the “meth” that tweakers crave. But the left-handed isomer of methamphetamine, levomethamphetamine, is a vasoconstrictor with little to no psychoactive effect and is used in nasal decongestants and inhalers.

In contrast, both isomers of amphetamine are psychostimulants, so Shire combines both the l- and d- isomers in Adderall, each packaged in two different types of salt carriers. By creating a custom racemic mix of l- and d- isomers, and by using a custom blend of salt carriers for each molecule, Adderall meets the definition of an amphetamine formulation that can be patented for prescription use. In a word: genius.

Formulating the perfect blend of speed for children sounds like a task more suited to a crime syndicate than a pharmaceutical company, but Shire put some serious thought into packaging amphetamine into pills for kids with short attention spans. The l- isomer of amphetamine, levoamphetamine, packs a euphoric rush of norepinephrine for a quick and speedy high, with a small release of dopamine for a short period of increased alertness and focus. Levoamphetamine (a.k.a. benzedrine) is a favorite of tweakers who want the most bang for their buck. The d- isomer of amphetamine, dextroamphetamine, produces less of an initial rush but increases the supply of dopamine and norepinephrine in the brain's synaptic clefts for many hours. Dextroamphetamine (a.k.a. dexedrine) is considered by many to be the first “smart drug,” used experimentally to increase focus, memory and intelligence.

Both isomers of amphetamine increase arousal and stimulate the desire to be active. Shire designed Adderall to maximize alertness and focus while not overdoing the initial euphoric rush, so



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the amphetamine mix in Adderall is only 25 percent l-amphetamine to 75 percent d-amphetamine. Mixing both isomers has been shown to increase the release of dopamine *and* norepinephrine into the synaptic cleft faster and longer than either of the two isomers individually, so Adderall was designed to be a quick pick-me-up, followed by hours of increased alertness and focus. And by all accounts, Shire did a great job: Even though the generic version of Adderall tries to match the specific mix used by Shire, regular users will tell you that the generic pills are junk compared to the real thing. This is the power of the Adderall brand.

Amphetamine potency can be measured by two things. The first is how efficiently the amphetamine molecule releases dopamine and norepinephrine into the synaptic cleft. The second is how long it takes for that amphetamine molecule to metabolize, because the longer it lingers at the synapse, the more it increases the brain's dopamine and norepinephrine supply.

Amphetamine's action of causing dopamine to be released into the brain's synapses from the axon terminals is fairly well understood, but less well known is how each isomer of amphetamine accomplishes this task. Dextro-amphetamine, the major component of Adderall, is thought to be most efficient at releasing dopamine along the brain's D1 and D4 pathways, which help focus cognitive attention. Levoamphetamine, the minor component of Adderall, is thought to be better at releasing norepinephrine and dopamine along the D2 reward pathways, causing rushes of euphoria and sexual arousal, as well as enhanced reflexes and motor coordination.

Although l- and d- isomers of amphetamine differ slightly in their function and effect, both stimulate the brain's pleasure and reward centers in exactly the same way, and both are highly addictive. In fact, all addictive behaviors—drug use, sex, gambling and so on—are wired into this central dopamine reward pathway, and none stimulate it better than amphetamine. Indeed, amphetamines are the *most* rewarding of all reward-based addictions, which is why the most potent and longest-acting form of amphetamine, dextromethamphetamine (meth), is so widely coveted by addicts. Methamphetamine is the end of the line for chasing the norepinephrine and dopamine rush.

The mechanisms that stimulate



A few days of amphetamine abuse coupled with sleep deprivation will cause paranoia and psychosis.

reward and addiction are the same ones that make Adderall such a good drug for increasing focus, attention and memory. An increased dopamine supply means more sustained focus for longer periods; an increased norepinephrine supply means stronger memory formation and better information retention. This makes Adderall the drug of choice for college students who spend long hours studying or cramming for final exams. The trade in Adderall is so commonplace that it's like an underground currency: Name-brand Adderall sells for more than generics, XR capsules sell for more than the tablets, and each little pill has a milligram dosage marked on it, which means you always know the size of the dose you're getting. The package is simple, neat and perfect.

But a little study boost can easily spiral into addiction. Prolonged use of Adderall and other stimulants can create dependence and even serious side effects when abused. The short-term effects of Adderall abuse include insomnia and loss of appetite, which can cause stress and malnutrition. A few days of amphetamine abuse coupled with sleep

deprivation will cause paranoia and psychosis, and these symptoms will get worse until the person stops the amphetamine use and returns to a normal eating and sleeping schedule. Withdrawing from an amphetamine addiction doesn't cause vomiting or sickness as with heroin, but it does cause extreme agitation, irritability and (ironically) an inability to focus. Long-term amphetamine addicts also report anhedonia, or the inability to feel a sense of enjoyment or pleasure without the aid of some chemical stimulant, which can linger for long periods after quitting. Even though Adderall is considered safe for prescription use in pill form, it's still a Schedule II amphetamine (which means it's in a *less* restricted category than pot, by the way), and the addiction potential is high.

But does Adderall actually help students get better grades or higher test scores? For students diagnosed with ADD or ADHD, who are at a cognitive disadvantage to begin with, Adderall therapy has been shown to boost overall academic performance with long-term positive results. And 9 percent of children between the ages of five and 17 are diagnosed with ADD/ADHD, which means that 9 percent of minors are perfect targets for boosting academic performance with an Adderall prescription.

But for students not diagnosed with ADD/ADHD who pop Adderall without a prescription to pull a few all-nighters, the results are not so clear. Adderall use may help some of these students, but it can be detrimental to others, though no formal studies have been conducted to show how pervasive nonprescription Adderall use is among students and what effect, if any, it has on overall academic performance. That's because there are several big problems inherent in conducting such a study, including requiring students to report their own illegal activity and collecting urine samples from them to match test scores against the presence of amphetamine metabolites in their urine.

Unlike sports doping, which involves some pretty straightforward issues of fairness and testing, academic doping seems to be a much stickier problem. Parents paying thousands of dollars a year for college probably don't want their children screened for performance-enhancing drugs before they can graduate—it would open up a huge can of worms if every test score could be challenged with a request for a urine sample. And on the flip side, do you want your

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child to be selected for the placebo control group in a class of students being given Adderall over the course of a year to see if it helps improve their test scores overall? And if Adderall *does* improve academic performance for non-ADD/ADHD students, should every student be allowed to get a prescription to level the playing field? You can see why few in academia care to consider the issue of students doping other than to say they oppose it, while admitting that the practice is widespread.

In contrast to academia, the military has long recognized the use of amphetamines for performance enhancement. In 2010, the Department of Defense spent \$39 million for over 32,000 prescriptions for active-duty soldiers to stimulants like Adderall, Ritalin and dexedrine. That's a 10-fold increase in the number of military prescriptions for stimulants from 2005. And the military isn't alone, because the number of civilian prescriptions is also skyrocketing. In 2010, more than 18 million Adderall prescriptions were written, which means either that a crippling epidemic of ADD/ADHD is sweeping America, or else there's a growing recreational demand for the brand of amphetamine that everyone trusts.



Demand for Adderall became so dramatic in 2012 that the federal government had to act to combat shortages of the drug.

Indeed, the demand for Adderall became so dramatic in 2012 that the federal government had to act to combat shortages of the drug. The DEA allows only a certain amount of

amphetamine to be commercially manufactured each year, and Congress annually votes to increase that quota to meet the rising demand. In 1990, that number was 417 kg of amphetamine; in 2000, it was 9,007 kg; in 2012, 25,300 kg. The number is doubling every few years, and apparently this supply is still not enough. In May 2012, two members of Congress, Chuck Grassley (R-IA) and Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), wrote to the US Government Accountability Office on Shire Pharmaceutical's behalf to urge the DEA to consider easing its restrictions on amphetamine production. Other pharmaceutical companies that make generic versions of Adderall—including Teva, Barr, Impax Labs, Sandoz and CorePharma—will also benefit if the DEA raises its annual quota on industrial amphetamine production. From which one can see that, when it comes to manufacturing and distributing large amounts of patented-blend amphetamines, it pays to have friends in high places. ✨

James L. Kent is the author of Psychedelic Information Theory and the founder of DoseNation.com, a blog devoted to drug news and commentary.

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After a long day at the office, famed travel guide Rick Steves enjoys coming home to an ounce of legal cannabis in Washington State.



by DAVID BIENENSTOCK

RICK STEVES

THE HIGH TIMES INTERVIEW

LONG BEFORE HE BECAME AN INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED TRAVEL GURU WITH SHOWS ON PBS AND NPR, RICK STEVES BEGAN SPEAKING OUT IN HIS OWN BACKYARD ABOUT THE MANY HARMS CAUSED BY MARIJUANA PROHIBITION AND WHY LEGALIZATION OFFERED THE MOST SENSIBLE ALTERNATIVE. ALTHOUGH HE FELT THE NEED TO HIDE HIS IDENTITY BEHIND A PSEUDONYM DURING THE “JUST SAY NO” ANTI-POT HYSTERIA OF THE REAGAN-ERA ’80s, THE MILD-MANNERED EDMONDS, WA, NATIVE APPEARED ON LOCAL RADIO IN THOSE DARK DAYS, HOPING TO PROVIDE A POSITIVE EXAMPLE OF AN ACCOMPLISHED BUSINESSPERSON WHO JUST HAPPENED TO ENJOY CANNABIS—AND WHO CONSIDERED POT PROHIBITION AN UNMITIGATED DISASTER.

“WHAT TROUBLED ME BACK THEN WAS, IN THE MEDIA, NOBODY EVER TALKED ABOUT MARIJUANA WITHOUT THE WORD *ABUSE* IN THE SAME SENTENCE; IT WAS ALWAYS *DRUG ABUSE*,” HE RECALLS. “AND, YOU KNOW, PEOPLE WHO ENJOY SMOKING POT FOR CREATIVE PURPOSES THINK OF THAT AS *USE*, NOT *ABUSE*. I MEAN, YOU CAN ABUSE MARIJUANA, BUT YOU CAN USE IT CREATIVELY AS WELL.”

IN NOVEMBER, NOW FULLY OUT OF THE CANNABIS CLOSET, STEVES HELPED MAKE HISTORY AS ONE OF THE PRIMARY SPONSORS OF I-502, THE VOTER INITIATIVE THAT LEGALIZED THE POSSESSION OF UP TO AN OUNCE OF MARIJUANA FOR ADULTS 21 AND OVER IN WASHINGTON STATE, WHILE ALSO PAVING THE WAY FOR STATE-LICENSED COMMERCIAL CULTIVATION AND SALES. A SIMILAR VOTER INITIATIVE, AMENDMENT 64, WAS ALSO PASSED BY A WIDE MARGIN IN COLORADO.

TO CELEBRATE THOSE UNPRECEDENTED VICTORIES AND THE BRIGHT GREEN FUTURE FOR MARIJUANA-LAW REFORM THEY SEEMED TO FORETELL, STEVES INVITED *HIGH TIMES* UP TO HIS HOMETOWN, ABOUT 30 MINUTES NORTH OF SEATTLE, WHERE HE STILL LIVES AND MAINTAINS THE HEADQUARTERS OF HIS TRAVEL COMPANY. WHAT STARTED OUT AS A SMALL EUROPEAN TOUR OUTFIT HAS, OVER THE YEARS, GROWN INTO AN ENTERPRISE OF SOME 80 EMPLOYEES ORGANIZING TOURS, WRITING GUIDEBOOKS AND PRODUCING THE PUBLIC TELEVISION SERIES AND RADIO PROGRAMS THAT MAKE RICK STEVES A WELCOME GUEST IN MILLIONS OF AMERICAN HOMES.

HAVING JUST RETURNED FROM A PRODUCTIVE DAY AT THE OFFICE, THE AUTHOR OF *TRAVEL AS A POLITICAL ACT* CAREFULLY CONSIDERS THE OUNCE OF MARIJUANA PROCURED FOR THIS PHOTO SHOOT AS HE PLAYS SELECTIONS FROM *LES MISÉRABLES* ON THE BABY GRAND HE’S OWNED SINCE THE DAYS WHEN HE MADE HIS LIVING AS A PIANO TEACHER. THE IDEA FOR OUR PICTURE SPREAD: TO SHOW A REGULAR GUY AT HOME, WITH HIS PERSONAL AMOUNT OF LEGAL POT, AND MAKE THE WHOLE THING SEEM PERFECTLY NORMAL, NONTHREATENING—MAYBE EVEN A LITTLE BORING.

IN THE END, THOUGH, STEVES CAN’T HELP BUT SMILE.

So here we are, in your home, with an ounce of legal marijuana. How does it feel to be able to say that after all this time?

It’s nice to stick a bong on my shelf and just hope somebody asks about it—because it’s legal here in Washington State. *Ahhhhh* ... that is a nice feeling.

When did you try marijuana for the first time?

The first time was in Afghanistan, in Kabul.

Wow. What year was that?

Must have been 1978. I never got high in college.

So you went through college in the ’70s without smoking pot,

and then went to Afghanistan and tried it?

I didn’t smoke in college because I felt like there was a lot of peer pressure, and I didn’t want to succumb to it. But in Afghanistan, the whole world was high—you’d be riding a bus, and at the rest stop they’d all sit around and watch somebody slaughter a goat while passing some sort of a pipe or bong. Everybody would get as stoned as you can imagine, and then they’d say, “Okay, time to get back on the bus.” It was an amazing, strange world.

Of course, where I really learned to enjoy the experience was in Nepal, in Katmandu. I’d get high and eat apple pie hot out of a medieval oven while listening to the Stones or something like that, surrounded by travelers from all over the world. And I’d just think, “Life is good.”

You sometimes describe “high” as a place you like to visit. Can you explain what you mean by that?

What I mean is that, when you travel, you enter a different mind-set—and when you get high, you can find yourself in a different mind-set, too. And I think that if you’re an adult, you should be free to choose whether or not you want to go there. Also, if somebody tells me I can’t step across a little line on the sidewalk, all of a sudden I want to step across. That’s kind of human nature, isn’t it?

So you think outlawing marijuana has been counterproductive?

You go to the Netherlands, and the Dutch people think it’s just kind of odd that Americans are so excited about marijuana coffeeshops. For them, it’s like, “Yeah, if you want it, it’s down the street. What’s the big deal?” Well, you can do hard time for marijuana in America. That’s what’s the big deal.

And if you look at marijuana usage in the Netherlands, for both youth and adults, it’s lower than here.

I wish Americans understood that. By every measure, the Dutch smoke less pot per capita than we Americans do. There’s no correlation between consumption and the strictness or looseness of a society’s laws. The Dutch approach drugs in terms of pragmatic harm reduction: They want to take crime out of the equation, and they treat those with addictions as people with a health problem who need help—not criminals who need to be locked up.

So, if “high” is a place and it’s now legal to go there in Washington State, do you have any travel advice for a first-time visitor?

That’s a good question. The thing is, I’m not really a proponent of pot—I just believe that if somebody wants to smoke it, that’s their right. Still, I’d say try it in a safe environment with experienced people you trust and feel comfortable with. You also might need to try it a few times, because it doesn’t always work the first time.

Do you think marijuana tourism will become a big ancillary business?

Right now, there’s a lot of speculation about marijuana tourism here in Washington State—the same way people visit the little vineyards in Walla Walla and go wine-tasting. But I don’t think that’s going to be much of an industry. I think Washington’s just going to be an example of a progressive state that understands the futility of criminalizing marijuana. Other states will see the positive results of that approach, and pretty soon tourists won’t need to think about traveling to Washington for legal pot, because pot will be legal all over the United States.

Why did you decide to speak out publicly about marijuana legalization?

All my adult life, most of the people I've worked with—including most of the people I've respected in my field—have smoked pot secretly, and they're perfectly upstanding citizens in every way. But they've had to lie to their own children; they're nervous about their employers; some are even nervous about their spouses. And I always thought, "This is not right." As Americans, we embrace a lot of lies—and for me, the "evils of marijuana" was one lie too many.

Then, in 2003, the campaign to pass I-75 [the initiative that made marijuana the lowest law-enforcement priority in Seattle] asked me to give a talk on Capitol Hill to help raise money. I had to ask myself, "Wow, do I actually want to stand in a public place and explain the wisdom of taking crime out of the equation?" Ultimately, I realized this was the right thing to do. This is good citizenship. I was speaking up for the truth.

Really, I want to make marijuana less scary for the people who wish it would just go away, because marijuana is never going to go away.

Have there been any negative consequences to speaking out?

I figured there would be, but there haven't been. I suppose I have turned certain people against me—but those are people that I don't necessarily want for me, so what's the loss? I don't need to compromise on the truth or what's good for society in order to have everybody like me. I have some celebrity and a bit of clout because of what I do, and I'd rather use it in a way that's a little more courageous than simply trying to make everybody happy.

I guess over the years a few people have told me, "We know what you think about



Steve Jobs promoting pot legalization at the Seattle Hempfest

"Marijuana legalization got more votes in Colorado and Washington than President Obama. So if the federal government comes in here to overrule us, it will be a really blatant disregard of the will of the people."

marijuana, and we're never going to use your guidebooks or take your tours." And all I can think is, "Europe will be a lot more fun without you."

Where were you on election night?

I went to the official results-watching party at the Westin Hotel in Seattle. I was on pins and needles all night because we didn't have any [advance] numbers for the initiative, and then all at once it was clear legalization had passed by a wide margin. I-502 won! At that point, I was euphoric. But I also realized I never want to go through another political campaign again—I just don't handle that kind of stress very well. Because, you know, when it comes time to count the votes, you either win or lose—it's 100 percent or zero. And we worked so hard and put so much energy and money into the campaign; all the conditions came together in what felt like a perfect storm. I didn't know if we could ever get it all together again in the future.

How do you assess the reaction of the federal government since the election?

That's the big question mark. Our governor here in Washington State wants the federal government to say what they're going to do so we can build a regulatory system and start collecting tax revenue. I'm a friend of Governor [Jay] Inslee, and he understands this is a real issue. He flew to Washington, DC, to meet with US Attorney General Eric Holder and try to find out if we can do this or not—because he's hoping to divert hundreds of millions of dollars from the black market and then tax and regulate a new and legal industry. That is quite exciting.

Keep in mind, marijuana legalization got more votes in Colorado and Washington than President Obama. So if the federal government comes in here to overrule us, it will be a really blatant disregard of the will of the people. Fortunately, I think what the Justice Department wants to see is a smart law that's enforced consistently and

prevents legal Washington State marijuana from "leaking" into other states. The federal government doesn't have endless resources, so they have to pick their battles.

And once we won, the tenor of the discussion changed very quickly. Now people can much more easily support the idea that we shouldn't be locking up pot smokers. So overall, I'm feeling very confident that we're going to have our chance to pull this off. I think that in a year or so, people will realize that the sky's not falling—and in the meantime, the government will become addicted to the tax revenue.

So you're saying tax revenue is the addictive property of marijuana?

That's what I'm saying.

As someone who employs 80 people, how do you feel if any of them chooses to use marijuana?

I could care less if my staff smokes pot. I don't want them getting stoned at work or coming to work high, but I would assume a good many of them use pot recreationally on the weekend, and that's their choice. I certainly think a smart entrepreneur wants to employ creative people. If I gave everybody a test to see if they smoked marijuana in the last month, it would be catastrophic for my business.

You've frequently been a speaker at Seattle Hempfest, the nation's largest marijuana event. What makes you return year after year?

To me, Hempfest shows that there's a huge stratum of our population that's incredibly marijuana-oriented. That's not really me, but they're just as legitimate as me.

A very good exercise for anybody who is afraid of cannabis culture would be to walk the whole length of Seattle Hempfest—through that sprawling, festive crowd



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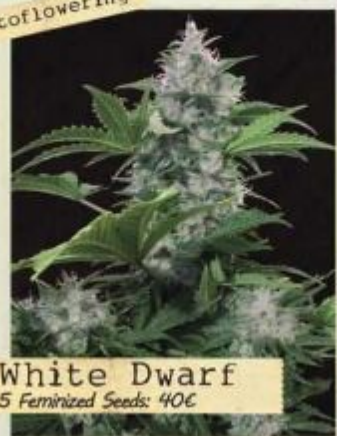
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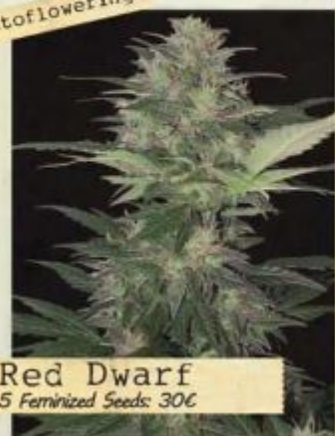
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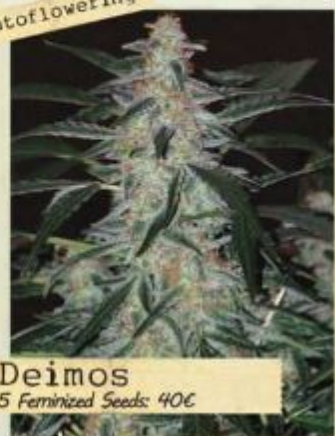
White Dwarf
5 Feminized Seeds: 40€

Autoflowering



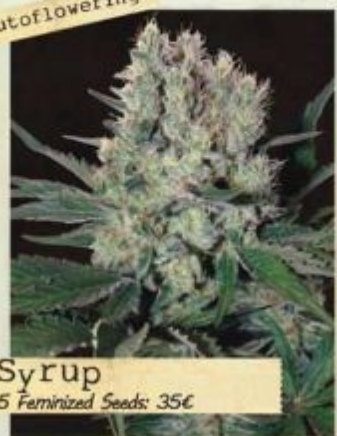
Red Dwarf
5 Feminized Seeds: 30€

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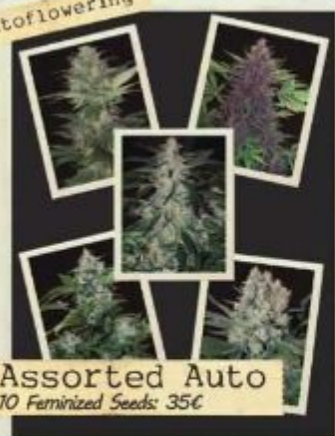
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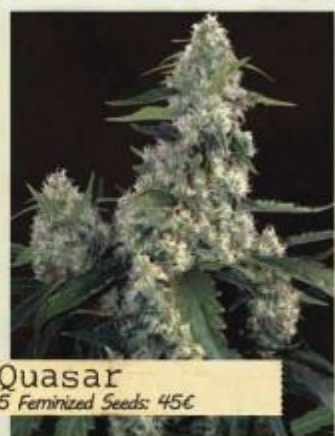
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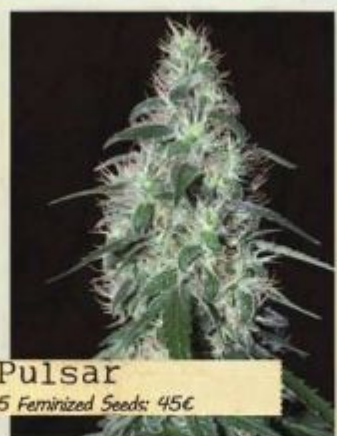
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of more than 100,000—and realize, “Wow, these people live in our community 365 days out of the year. And for one weekend, they can all get together and have a big party that’s a celebration of freedom and alternative lifestyles and tolerance.” When you look at it that way, it’s a beautiful thing.

You’re someone who’s guided by your faith as a Lutheran. Do you see religious leaders beginning to change their attitude about marijuana legalization?

I see no incongruity between my Christian faith and exercising my civil liberty to smoke pot recreationally. While it’s hard for me to imagine a lot of pastors just lighting up for kicks, many religious leaders have already come out against marijuana prohibition because of the damage it does to their communities. Black Baptist preachers come up and hug me now for helping their community be less damaged by the laws against marijuana. That’s an amazing feeling.

What do you think should be the goals for reformers moving forward in the next couple of years?

Thankfully, there’s a lot of good people following through on I-502 and making sure the new law will be implemented in an optimal way. So as a member of the advisory board of NORML, I’d now like to help other states do what we did in Washington. And I really hope that everyone who reads *High Times* will join me in working for legalization nationwide.

Unfortunately, too many pot smokers don’t live up to their responsibility as citizens to actively push for



“All of us can speak reasonably with people who are afraid of cannabis, to help demystify it for them.”

drug-policy reform. I’ve got friends who are great people, and they love smoking marijuana, but they’ve never even thought to raise their voice to change the law. Every one of us has a world where we’re respected and people will listen to what we say. All of us can speak reasonably with people who are afraid of cannabis, to help demystify it for them. And you don’t have to go it alone—you can join NORML or whatever other drug-law reform organization suits you.

Retail sales of marijuana in Washington State may begin in early 2014. What do you hope to find at the pot store?

My fantasy is to choose marijuana according to what kind of high I want. The frustrating thing with the black market is, you don’t really know for sure what type of pot you’re smoking. And that’s really a lost opportunity—because for me, some pot is really good and some pot is really not. And I think when it’s legalized and sold in a store, I’ll have the ability to buy strains that really work well for me.

What types of herb do you usually gravitate toward?

I want stuff that’s good for listening to music, playing my piano, having the munchies and giggling. I don’t want a heavy stone—I want an uplifting high.

Do you have a favorite strain?

You know, I’m not very sophisticated about different varieties. People just give me pot. Everywhere I go, people give me pot.

Perhaps if you say that again, it might convince a few more prominent people to come out of the cannabis closet ...

Oh yeah, that’s an important point: If you speak out about legalization, growers and heads will give you free marijuana. I don’t smoke very much, of course, so lately the stressful thing has been not being able to keep up with the abundance of wonderful pot that people have kindly been gifting me.

It’s really fun, actually, because I know they’re doing it to thank me. I didn’t legalize marijuana—I was just one guy helping—but in some ways, I got to be the public face of our success here in Washington State. ✨

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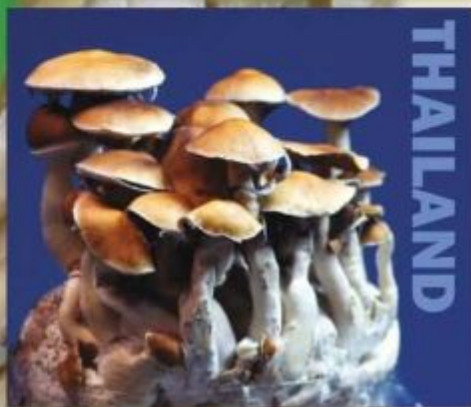
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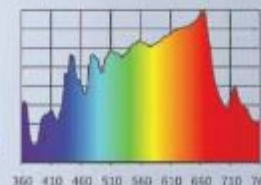
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* P.A.R. - Photosynthetically Active Radiation

* CRI - Color Rendering Index

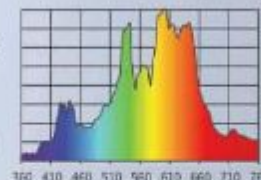
Ceramic Metal Halide 830W - 890W System Wattage

CCT: 4000k
CRI: 97
 μ M: 1657
 μ M Distance: 26 in*



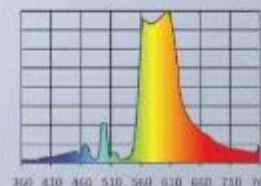
Ceramic Metal Halide 315W - 331W System Wattage

CCT: 3000k - 4200k
CRI: 94
 μ M: 1371
 μ M Distance: 16 in*



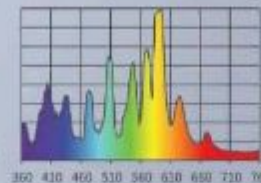
HPS Digimax 600W - 670W System Wattage

CCT: 2135k
CRI: 35
 μ M: 1102
 μ M Distance: 20 in*



Metal Halide 450W - 470W System Wattage

CCT: 4179K
CRI: 65
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* μ M (micromole) readings are taken at plant canopy distance.



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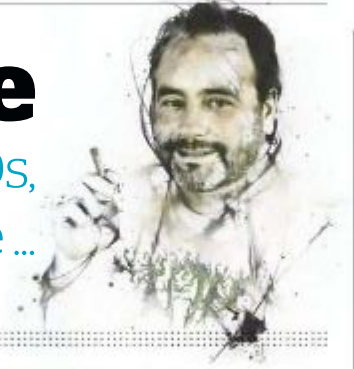


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SUBJECT: **When to Flower**

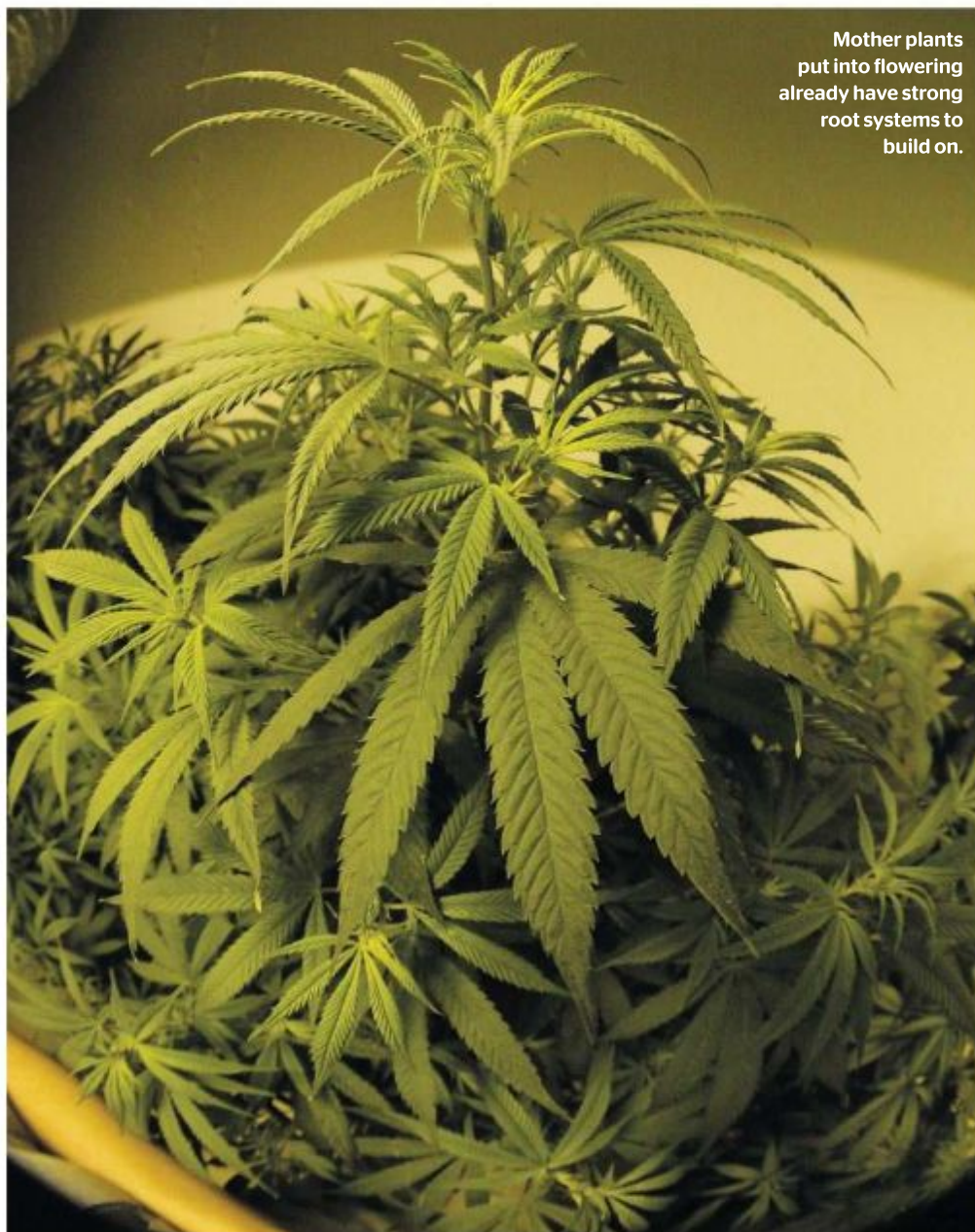
FROM: **Drew H.**

🌱 I'm a beginning-level grower, and I have three Purple Kush plants I've been growing for about three and a half weeks now. The plants are about 10 or 11 inches tall, but my grow space is limited to about 2.5 feet wide and 4 feet tall. When should I switch to 12/12?

Dear Drew,
The time to switch to the 12/12-hour light cycle for flowering is now. Due to your limited vertical space, you may want to consider topping your plants or using some sort of trellising system, such as Screen of Green (ScrOG), to keep your plants from growing too tall and burning from your grow lamp. Plants continue to stretch for several weeks after flowering is induced, so it's important to factor that "stretch time" into your schedule.

Typically, Kush plants like the ones you're growing will add about a foot or so of vertical growth after the switch is made. Some *sativas* stretch several feet during this period, but *indica*-dominant plants aren't as lanky. Also, the question of when to start flowering is related to the type of grow light you're using. High-wattage lights like HID's need to be kept farther away from plant tops than fluorescents or LEDs.

Danko Tip: Dead leaves and plant debris on the floor are a breeding ground for pests. Keep all growroom surfaces clean at all times.



Mother plants put into flowering already have strong root systems to build on.

SUBJECT: **Flowering Mom**

FROM: **Chris**

🌱 I have a three-month-old Blackwater plant that's flowering in her vegetative period. The light was at 18/6, but I changed it to 24 since she started flowering a week ago. I made this a mother plant and have rooted clones from it, but I'm concerned my mother is going to continue flowering. Have you ever heard of such a thing? Do you have any advice?

Dear Chris,

It seems that your plant is an auto-flowering plant. This means it will continue to flower regardless of the photoperiod. These types of plants cannot be used as mother plants, so your best bet is to flower it out and start a new mother

plant from regular seeds.

Regular seeds can be either male or female, so you must take a cutting of the plant as it's growing (after three weeks of growth or so) and root the clone. Then you can flower out the clone in order to determine the sex of the mother plant. This way, the mother doesn't have to endure the stress of going into flowering and then reverting back to the vegetative stage. That type of stress can cause bad behaviors from the plant, such as hermaphroditism and other abnormalities.

SUBJECT: **Storing Mixed Nutes**

FROM: **Mike L.**

🌱 I'm a busy person and a bit of a procrastinator. I have a 10-gallon reservoir and was

wondering if I could make a big 40-gallon batch of nutrient solution every four weeks and then just use 10 gallons per week for the month. Would it be okay to do this, or would the premixed batch degrade? I am using the three-part Flora series from General Hydro.

Dear Mike,

I don't recommend using premixed nutrients that have been sitting around for a month. It's much more desirable to mix the nutes as needed and use them immediately. Once you mix up a batch, the solution will begin to evaporate, which can cause fluctuations in the pH and the parts per million (ppm) of the salts, particularly with organic nutrients. Since the nutes you're using aren't organic, they will last longer if stored properly, but you must ensure that the pH and ppm are still at proper levels before adding your stored solution to the reservoir.

My advice, however, is to mix up the 10-gallon batches as needed instead of storing premixed nutrient solution, organic or otherwise, for a month. Procrastination isn't a trait that benefits pot farmers, so do your best to devote a bit more time and energy to your garden for best results.

SUBJECT: **Indicas at High Altitudes**

FROM: **Daniel L.**

🌱 I love your great answers to so many questions, and now I have one of my own: Can I grow *indicas* or hybrids in the Southern Hemisphere, for example in Colombia, which has mountains like you'd find in India, Pakistan or Afghanistan? The elevation is above 7,000 feet, and the nights get pretty cold. I want to start up a center there for cancer patients. My dad died from it, and now I'm dealing with it myself. There is a great marijuana community there, and I know doctors who deal with cancer patients. I've been planning this for about two years, ever since my dad passed away. Each day I tell myself I have the strength to do this. With my health issues, it's hard, but I will power through it.

Dear Daniel,

I'm so sorry to hear about your father's and your own plight with cancer. Too many good people are dying from this disease, and marijuana can help them deal with the nausea and other

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Danko Tip: For best results, vegetate your plants at least one week for every gallon of container space.

symptoms. There is even evidence that marijuana fights cancer cells, and more and more studies are showing the many healing properties of cannabis.

You can indeed grow *indicas* and hybrids in the mountains of Colombia—in fact, those are the ideal strains to cultivate in those conditions. *Sativas* take longer to flower and may not finish in high altitudes before the frost sets in. Good luck on your quest to help yourself and others heal from the devastating effects of cancer, and may your father rest in peace.

SUBJECT: **Leaf Browning**

FROM: **White 11**

🌿 I've been growing medical marijuana for some time. I have three young plants from clone, about 10 to 12 weeks old, grown outdoors in pots in the full Southern California sun. All three plants have begun to show the type of leaf seen here (at right). There's no sign of insects, but some of the middle leaves are turning brown. At least two or three leaves exhibit this on each plant. Nice-looking buds are forming, though they're not ready for harvest yet, and they do have a strong MJ odor. So why the discoloration? I've grown before and haven't seen this.

Dear White,

It looks to me like you have a phosphorous or potassium deficiency. These types of deficiency start in the older leaves and affect the margins between the veins first. As they get worse, brown rust spots appear and grow from the outside of the leaves inward. Leaves and stems often turn red or purple and fall off the plant eventually. These types of deficiency drastically slow down plant growth and can diminish your harvest significantly.

There may be phosphorous or potassium in the soil, but it's unavailable to your plants' roots due to salinity (too much fertilizer salts in the mix) or pH fluctuations. Before adding any fertilizer containing phosphorous (P) or potassium (K), first flush your medium with plenty of plain pH-balanced water. Then slowly introduce some mild NPK-balanced fertilizer and be patient; the new growth won't show signs of healthy behavior for several days. Allow the plants to recover before inducing the flowering stage of growth.



Discolored leaves are typically a sign of nutrient deficiencies.

SUBJECT: **Compact Fluorescents**

FROM: **Will Smokewitcha**

🌿 I've been seeing a bunch of stuff on compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) and wanted to know the pros and cons of using them. Also, if you had a small (3' x 3') grow space, what types of lights would you recommend for veg and flowering?

Dear Will,

CFLs have a number of benefits: They don't create much heat and can be placed close to plant tops, and they're also quite affordable. Another benefit is that they don't use much electricity, so your bills won't skyrocket from using them. One drawback is that they don't create as many lumens as high-intensity discharge (HID) lighting, which means your buds will be more sparse and airy. To get large, dense nuggets, you'll need to use several units at close range.

My recommendation for a 3' x 3' space would be to use a 250-watt or 400-watt metal halide (MH) light for the vegetative stage and a 250- or 400-watt high-pressure sodium (HPS) light for flowering. The 400-watt lights will produce more heat, so you must act accordingly and use proper ventilation to remove it. If you want to use CFLs throughout the grow cycle, try a 250-watt unit made specifically for growing plants.

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SUBJECT: **Grow Book and DVD**
FROM: **Smshocker**

I'm about to set up a grow tent in my room, and I'm probably going to use soil instead of hydroponics. Which book or DVD is best for what I want to do, and which companies have the best grow tents or boxes? I'm looking for the total setup all in one. If you could help me find these products, I would be forever grateful!

Dear Smshocker,

As far as grow books, I highly recommend *Indoor Marijuana Horticulture* by Jorge Cervantes, as well as *Organic Marijuana Soma Style* by master breeder Soma. The best DVD on the subject is my colleague Nico Escondido's *Grow Like a Pro*.

Recommending an individual company's grow tents or boxes can be difficult because there are so many great products available for many different circumstances and budgets. If money is no object, look into the all-in-one grow box available from BC Northern Lights or Supercloset. These can run several thousand dollars, but they automate much of the process and are easy to set up and get running.

Cheaper alternatives to grow boxes are the many varieties of grow tents that are available on the market. These are easy to set up and take down and typically come with hardware for hanging lights and holes for ventilation equipment. Do some research online to find the one that's best for you. 🌱

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Stoner Facts

Crime, Carnivores & Cannabis Jeans

Got a question for Dr. Mitch? Email him at 420research@gmail.com.

Is it true there's more crime in areas with cannabis dispensaries?

Sage

Hi Sage,
In a word, *no!* For example, data from Sacramento show that both property crimes and violent crimes are no higher around dispensaries than any other part of the city. Researchers emphasize that a lot of dispensaries have doormen, bodyguards and video cameras, all of which undoubtedly help to discourage crime.



Dispensaries deter criminals.

Property crimes and violent crimes are no higher around dispensaries than any other part of the city.

Hi Sky,
I have two sources suggesting that the first pair of Levi's did contain hemp fibers. I don't know if they were the first jeans *ever*, but it is worth noting.

Kees

When I follow a strict vegetarian diet, I can smoke everybody under the table—but when I'm eating meat, I'm a total lightweight. Is this just in my head?

Hi Kees,
As you might guess, there's not a lot of published research on this topic. William O'Shaughnessy, one of the fathers of medical cannabis, administered it to various animals back in the 1840s and found that carnivores were more sensitive to the plant than herbivores. But that's all I could find on the topic. However, pharmacologically speaking, I can't think of any reason it should make a difference.

My boss says that pre-employment drug testing helps him weed out bad workers at his restaurant. I disagree. Can you help me out?

Chef Green

Hi Chef,
As it happens, restaurants that drug-test employees have workers with sick days, accidents and turnover rates comparable to those that don't—all of which makes it seem like an embarrassing waste of money. ✨

My daughter says the first pair of jeans ever made came from hemp. I find that a little hard to believe.

Sky

Dr. Mitch Earleywine is an associate professor of psychology at SUNY Albany and the author of *Understanding Marijuana* and *The Parents' Guide to Marijuana*.

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Warner Brothers and the Hippies

The differences of East meeting West

Very few counterculture leaders ever achieve national recognition, and other than John Lennon, a unifying messiah capable of leading our rainbow tribe to the Promised Land never really emerged. In 1971, there was a short-lived attempt to create a hippie homeland in Arizona, similar to what the Mormons established in Utah, but it never generated much interest. At certain times, key figures came close

to capturing a center of energy: Abbie Hoffman certainly springs to mind.

The hippie counterculture emerged spontaneously all across America in 1966, kickstarted by the British Invasion, which created a new style—and new styles often open up new doors to new ideas. The culture arrived with many flavors. John Sinclair in Detroit may have been the most influential early on, especially after he got busted while managing the MC5, the most revolutionary of rock bands. Sinclair started out by renting a bunch of slum houses and turned them into communes. He published his own newspaper and created his own music, bands and art. Sinclair created the White Panther Party, inspired by Malcolm X, whose early rallies he'd attended as the only white guy in the room.

Meanwhile, out west we had Johnny Griggs of the Brotherhood of Eternal Love, Wavy Gravy of the Hog Farm and Stephen Gaskin, a creative writing professor at San Francisco State who'd dropped acid and instantly joined the hippie revolution. And, of course, Ken Kesey and the Merry Pranksters. Every one of these dudes was or is a great shaman and magician for our time, and they all had very unique styles. Generally speaking, the West Coast was more spiritual than the rest of the country, which only means they were more focused on vibrations than actions. The politicians from the East often had trouble understanding the

ceremonies of their counterculture brethren in the West, and vice versa.

Tom Forçade came from Arizona, but his allegiance was to John Sinclair.

(In fact, he was one of three people allowed to conduct a correspondence with John while he was imprisoned.) And Tom exerted a similarly disruptive creative force. Case in point: After the success of *Woodstock*, Warner Brothers decided to produce a follow-up movie. The



Tom Forçade and his Caravan of Pirates.

new concept was to take Woodstock on the road by filming a tour of the Merry Pranksters and the Grateful Dead, from California to the Isle of Wight festival in England. The project was dubbed *Medicine Ball Caravan*.

The Grateful Dead, however, insisted that a "magic wish per band member" clause be written into the contract. Basically, any whim of theirs was to be fulfilled no matter the expense—and knowing the Dead, they'd be sure to ask for something like a castle of ice in the desert. Even though the Dead were signed to Warners, they were driving the executives crazy with their tripped-out demands. Kesey was viewed as an instigator in this anti-corporate vibe, so he was 86'd immediately. Then Warners decided they didn't need the Dead for the project either. Big mistake.

Tom was encouraged to follow this caravan around, since one of his friends was a foreman on the tour, and he ran a counter-tour that became known as the Caravan of Pirates, which tried to shake the film company down for a \$50,000 donation to "the people"—a tactic he and Abbie had used successfully on Michael Lang at the first Woodstock festival.

Now that pot is going to be legal worldwide within a few years, maybe we can get that hippie-homeland project back on track. I, for one, would love to retire to a violence-free community that supports organic farming and clean energy. ✨

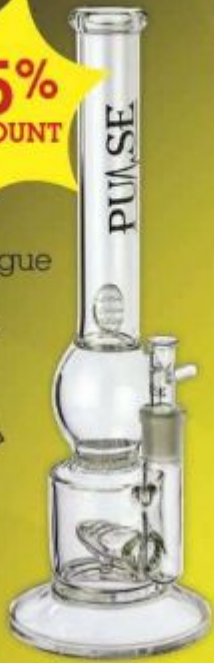


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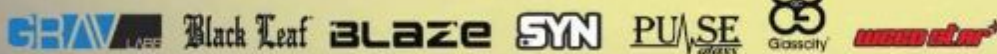


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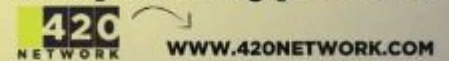
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Prescription for Tragedy

Are pharmaceutical drugs the real “smoking gun” in shooting sprees?

In the wake of the tragic elementary-school shooting in Newtown, CT, President Obama appointed a gun-violence commission to investigate the possible causes and remedies for these ever more frequent “crazed gunman” mass killings. Based on the panel’s recommendations, Obama then signed 23 executive actions aimed at combating and preventing such attacks in the future. These included proposals to broaden the databases for background checks and mental-illness records, launching a gun-safety education campaign, beefing up security at schools and urging Congress to reinstitute the ban on assault weapons, as well as high-capacity magazines. Also discussed was studying possible links between violent video games and real-life acts of violence. Noticeably absent from this conversation, however—in either the commission’s proceedings or the media—was any proposal to investigate the link between these shootings and pharmaceutical drugs.

According to various reports, more than 50 school shootings around the world have been perpetrated by boys on prescription drugs—particularly opioid painkillers and antidepressants such as selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs). Fourteen mass killings have been linked to Paxil and Prozac alone. Columbine killers Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold were on Zoloft and Luvox. Both Newtown gunman Adam Lanza and Virginia Tech gunman Ross Truett Ashley were taking undisclosed medications, and “Batman Shooter” James Holmes was apparently abusing Vicodin. In fact, if you look at the numbers, prescription drugs are a far greater danger to society than crazed gunmen, being responsible for over 100,000 deaths per year. That’s way more than the deaths from all *illegal* drugs and drunk drivers combined. Yet law enforcement continues to waste billions of tax dollars to combat these supposed dangers (including marijuana, which has never

killed anyone), while pharmaceutical companies rake in billions in annual profits. There are around 20 million Americans currently on antidepressant drugs that, despite a laundry list of horrifying side effects (including thoughts of suicide), are not only legal but aggressively advertised on television. Veterans, a group that is prescribed SSRIs with alarming regularity, have the highest suicide rate (up to 30 a month) of any demographic.

How can a pill whose side effects include “thoughts of suicide” possibly be

considered an antidepressant? *How can it even be legal?*

It’s easy to blame Hollywood or video games for society’s desensitization to violence—just like it was easy to blame heavy metal and Dungeons & Dragons for teen suicides in the 1980s—but these are just convenient scapegoats. While violent people may indeed gravitate toward violent games, that doesn’t imply a causal relationship. I watch gory movies, listen to Satanic heavy metal and play *Grand Theft Auto*, yet I’ve never started a fight in my life, let alone contemplated murder. That’s because sane people know the difference between fantasy and reality. In fact, for many people like me, these movies and video games provide a valuable outlet to harmlessly vent one’s anger.

So before we start going all Tipper Gore on the entertainment industry, perhaps we should take a look at something that’s proven to screw with people’s brain chemistry—pharmaceuticals. And as an alternative treatment for depression, maybe we should consider a natural medicine that’s been proven safe and effective for thousands of years and is widely recognized to actually reduce violent tendencies—cannabis. Because let’s be honest: The only thing that someone high on marijuana wants to attack is a pint of Ben and Jerry’s. So come on, America—isn’t it high time you flushed those pills and just fired up a joint instead? ✨



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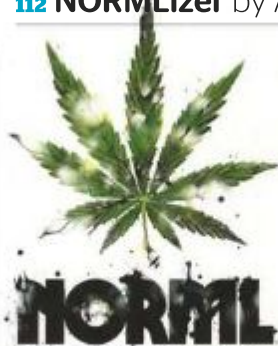
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Cannabis and the Courts

Almost every successful marijuana-law reform measure since the early '70s has been enacted in a direct and democratic fashion.

Allen St. Pierre is the executive director of NORML. Visit norml.org.

Thus far, 18 states and the District of Columbia have medical cannabis laws on the books. Fourteen states have decriminalized marijuana, and two—Colorado and Washington—have recently enacted actual legalization. Only the state of Alaska has effectively reformed its cannabis laws via judicial decision: In 1975, the State Supreme Court ruled that adults can possess a small amount of cannabis in their homes.

Most judges recognize that their fundamental job is to interpret the law, not “legislate from the bench.” So when reform advocates go before state, federal and administrative courts seeking relief from laws created and funded by legislatures, they must recognize that the entire process is stacked against them from the get-go. Establishing legal standing; addressing jurisdictional challenges; getting a class-action lawsuit certified; advancing religious defenses; challenging the legal definition of cannabis; litigating to compel the Feds to stop blocking unbiased scientific research or to report on scientific findings related to cannabis more accurately (and using modern citations); suing the government to allow industrial hemp under existing international treaties; and mounting administrative-law challenges to the clearly inaccurate scheduling of marijuana under the federal



Voters and their elected representatives managed to pass decriminalization or legalization measures in half a dozen states.

Controlled Substances Act or its various counterparts at the state level—all make the judicial process nearly prohibitive for cannabis-law reformers under every conceivable circumstance.

The most recent dead-end legal proceeding for cannabis-law reform took place in January, when the US Court of Appeals in Washington, DC, rejected a nearly 10-year-old rescheduling petition from Americans for Safe Access (ASA),

which advocates for the medicinal use of cannabis.

In its ruling, the court asserted that Congress was responsible for making the plant a Schedule I drug, and it therefore has the authority to change the Controlled Substances Act based on new and compelling scientific evidence anytime it wants. But the court also subjectively ruled that there is not

enough new research on cannabis to justify overturning the will of Congress.

Remarkably, in the 10 years that ASA was fighting successive presidential administrations in the courts to create a medical system for cannabis, the voters and their elected representatives managed to pass decriminalization or legalization measures in half a dozen states. And in the coming years, cannabis-law reformers at the federal, state and local levels will be mounting a series of legalization and other ballot initiatives.

Unfortunately, unlike the civil-rights movement of an earlier era, we can't look to the courts to effect changes in the law anytime soon. In the end, when it comes to cannabis-law reform, it's all up to us. ✨

FREEDOM FIGHTER

High Karli

The fight for marijuana rights in Texas is what drives Karli Duran.

In the late '70s and early '80s, Karli Duran's parents owned a popular headshop in Dallas, TX, named Strawberry Fields Head World. They were early contributors to NORML—in fact, Karli still proudly displays an original *Doonesbury* cartoon above her fireplace, won by her parents at a NORML art auction. With a heritage like this, it's only natural that Karli

found her way into the arena of marijuana activism.

Her path began as a journalist, writing about cannabis and the Drug War in 2011 for *Weird* magazine, a free monthly distributed in South and Central Texas. However, her crowning achievement was helping to establish and operate San Antonio NORML, for which she serves as executive director. Karli has often been interviewed and quoted in local



media and marijuana outlets like *Time 4 Hemp* and the *NORML Show Live*. She's also an active participant and volunteer at countless marijuana-law reform events, including the Texas Marijuana March, the Doobie Awards and the Cowboy Cup. Her current focus is on trying to get Bexar County to honor the state's “cite and release” law.

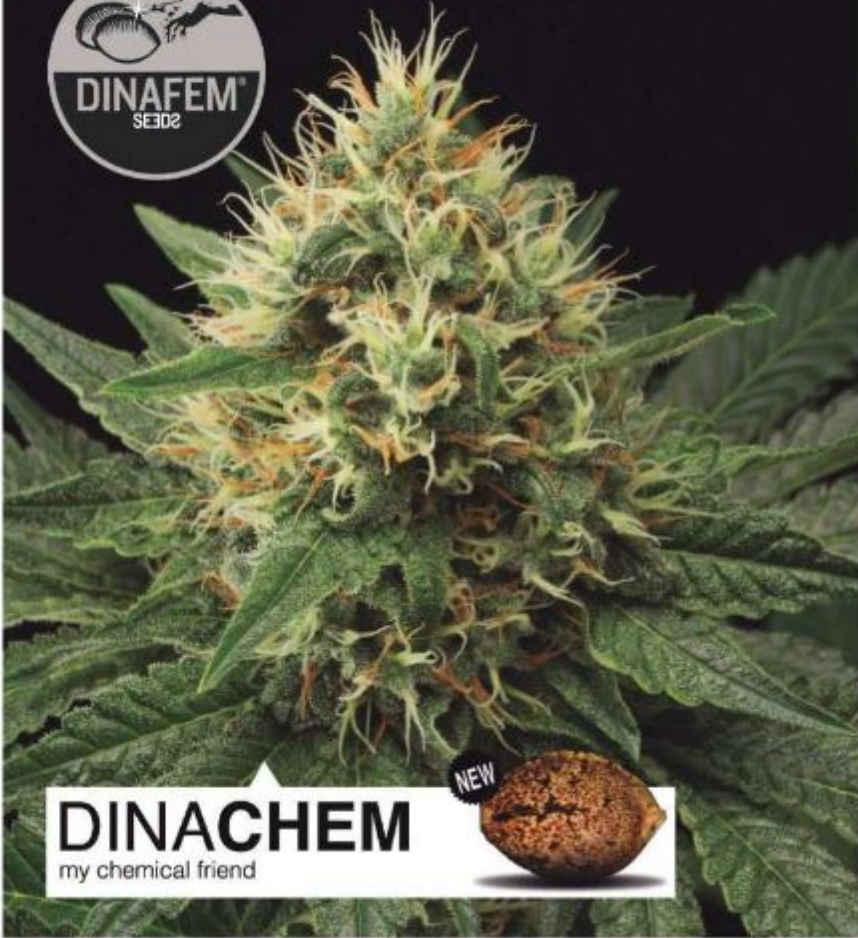
“I had always heard that Austin police were more lenient on people

busted with marijuana,” she says. “But in San Antonio and most cities in Texas, we are not near as lucky. I didn't understand how a bill that was passed unanimously was not being implemented throughout the state five years later.”

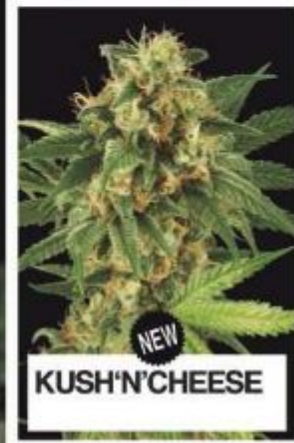
Karli plans to continue her meetings with local officials throughout the year to achieve this goal. Never one to shy away from advocacy, she can often be spotted driving around town in a smart car replete with marijuana logos and NORML branding.

by Erik Altieri, NORML communications coordinator

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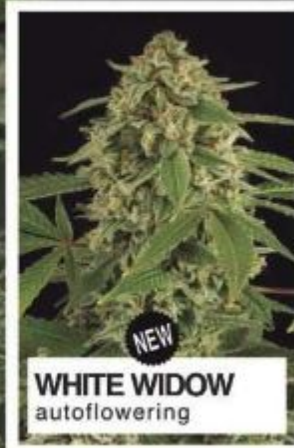
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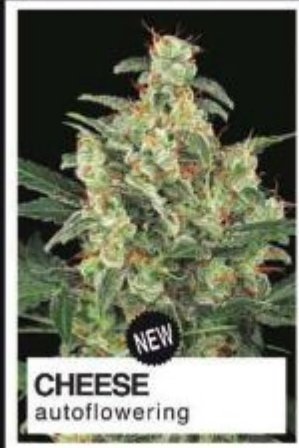
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FLOWER OF THE MONTH

Cali Grown

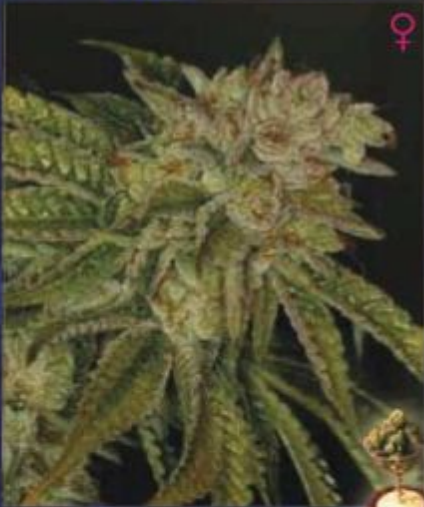
 Here's a picture from my garden of some organic California cannabis. I hope you and the readers enjoy! *Karl Kulik*





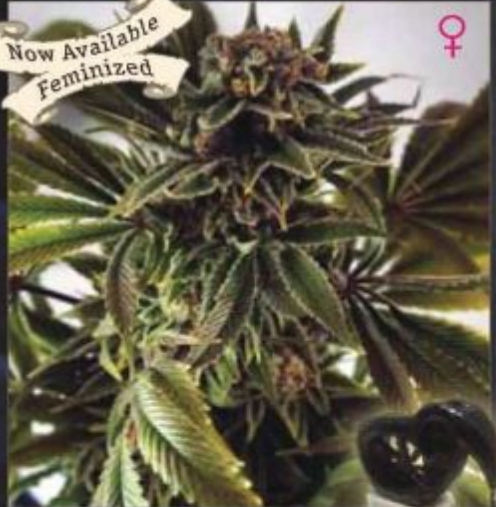
PREMIER INDICAS

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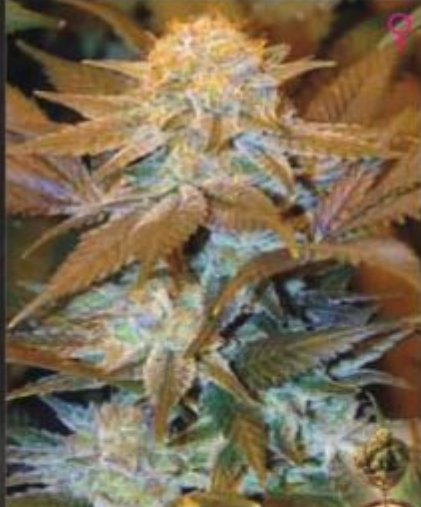
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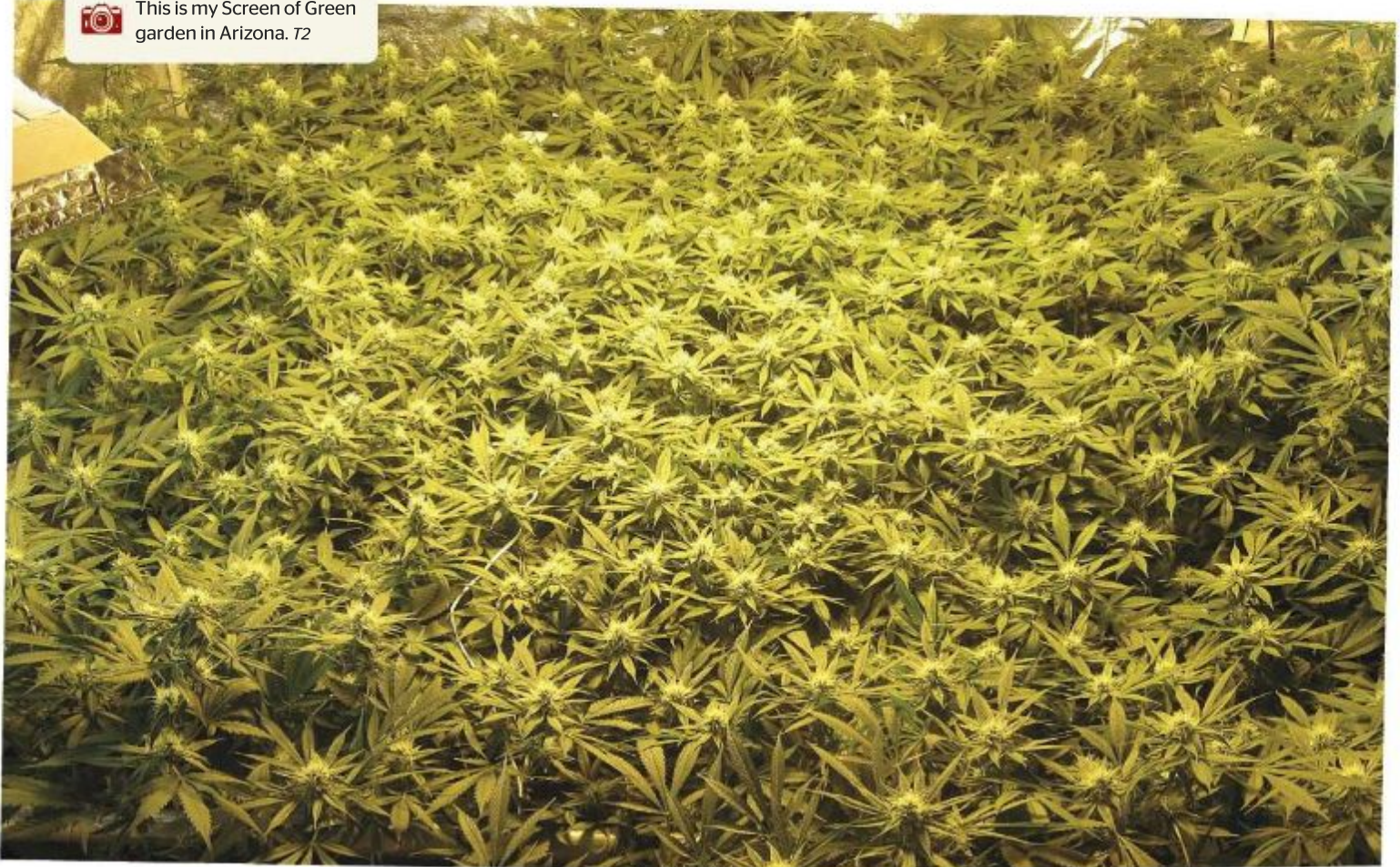
**SANTA CRUZ
SHREDDER**

GARDEN OF THE MONTH

ScrOG!




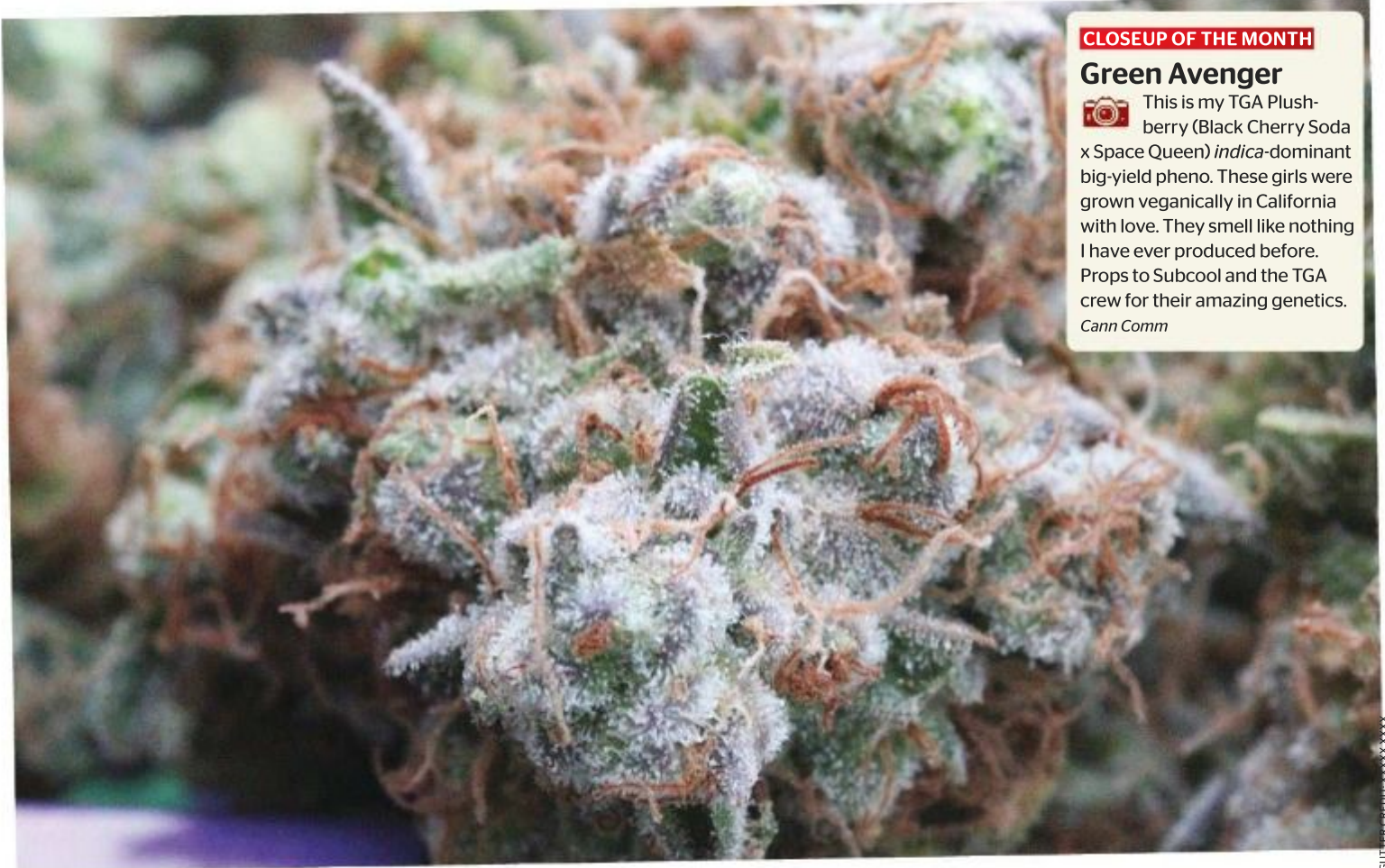
This is my Screen of Green garden in Arizona. T2



CLOSEUP OF THE MONTH

Green Avenger

 This is my TGA Plush-berry (Black Cherry Soda x Space Queen) *indica*-dominant big-yield pheno. These girls were grown veganically in California with love. They smell like nothing I have ever produced before. Propts to Subcool and the TGA crew for their amazing genetics.
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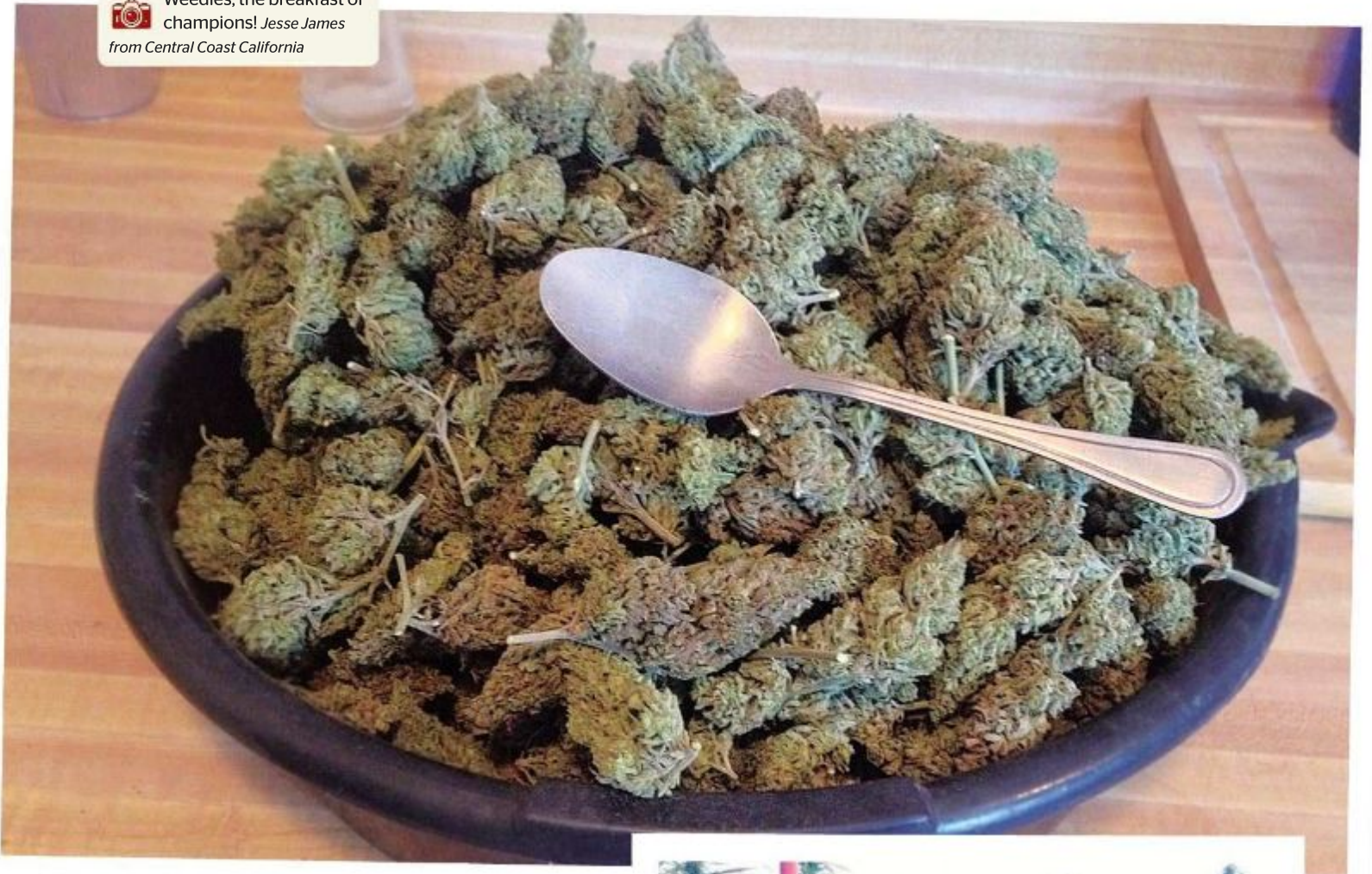
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NUGS OF THE MONTH


Super Bowl

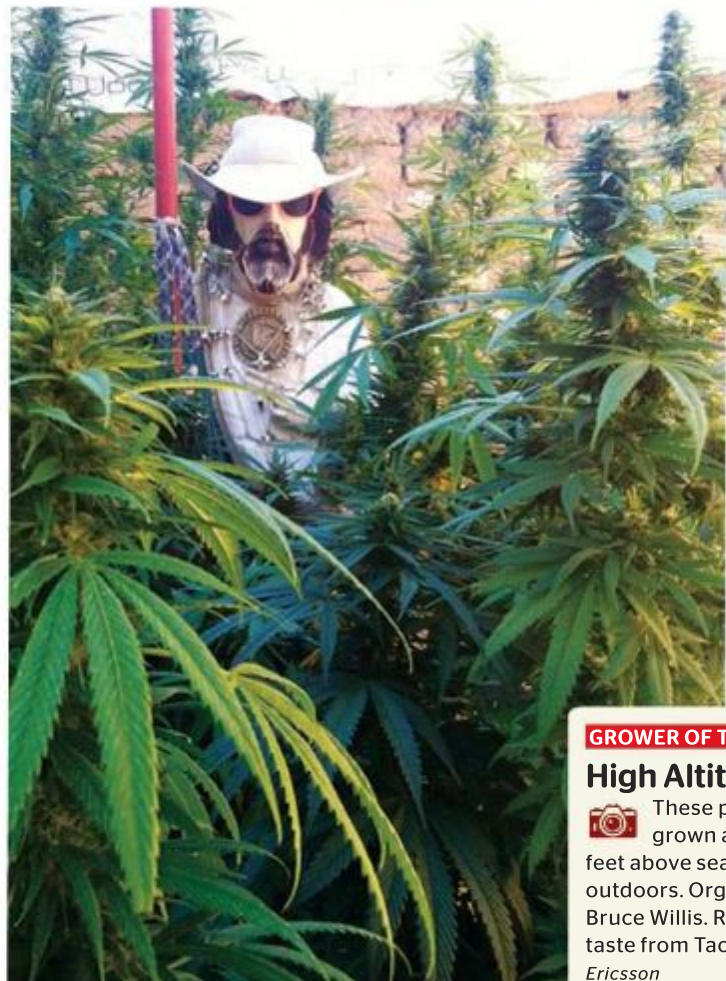
 Weedies, the breakfast of champions! *Jesse James* from Central Coast California



SPROUTS OF THE MONTH


Young Ones

 These are my Critical Mass plants under T5 fluorescent lighting. *P.C.*



GROWER OF THE MONTH

High Altitude

 These plants were grown at 7,500 feet above sea level outdoors. Organic classic Bruce Willis. Rich pure taste from Taos, NM. *Ericsson*

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► Beginner Grow Basics

Cultivation editor Nico Escondido tackles often-asked questions to help you get up to speed and growing great ganja in no time. From grow systems to nutrient programs, here's an overview of basic cultivation tips to help you harvest quality pot.

► (Re) Introducing Landrace Strains

While many cannabis strains are diluted due to amateurish breeding practices, some grow experts are using original heirloom marijuana genetics to reinvigorate the ganja gene pool for the benefit of medical patients and growers alike.

► Roseanne Sounds Off

The outspoken, irrepressible Roseanne Barr, who ran for president in the last election, sits down with editorial director Dan Skye to talk about showbiz, her political views and, of course, her affection for cannabis.

► Inside the Afghan Opium Trade

Tracking heroin from its source in Afghanistan's remote mountains through the streets of Europe and beyond, Antoinette de Jong and Robert Knott have documented how drugs, armed conflict, transnational crime and corruption feed off each other.

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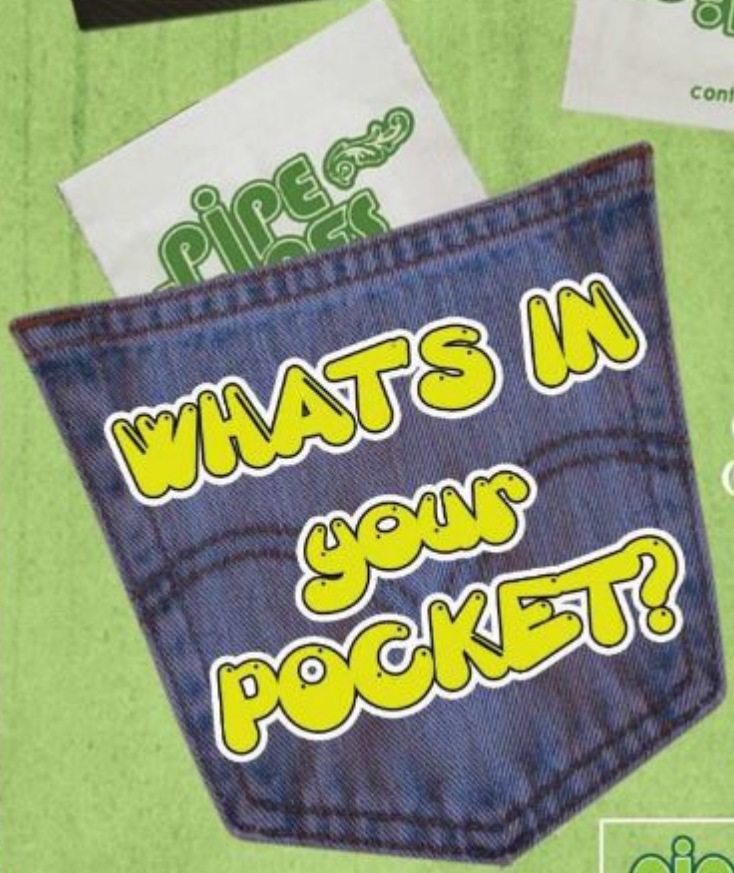
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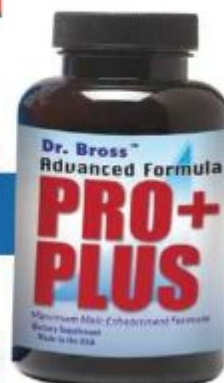


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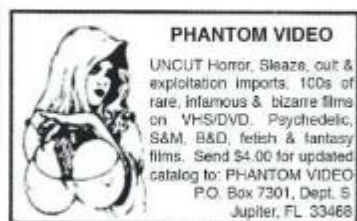
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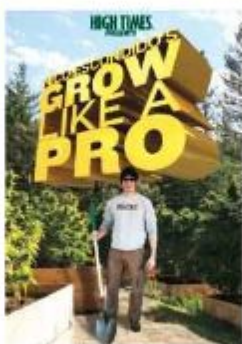


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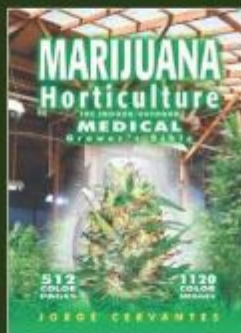


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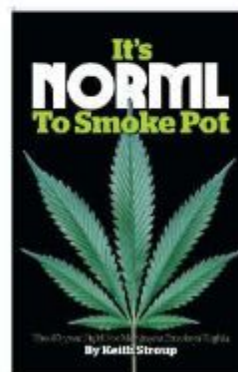


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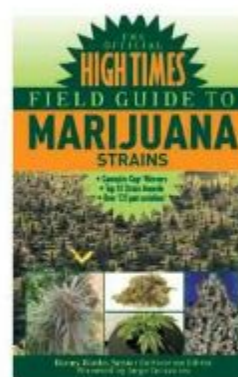


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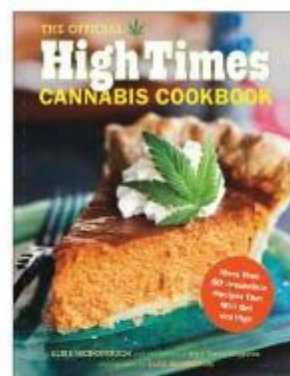
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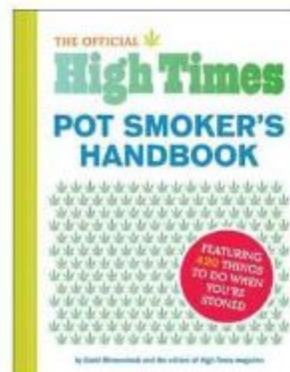
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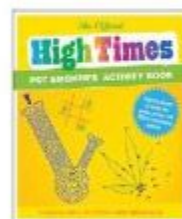
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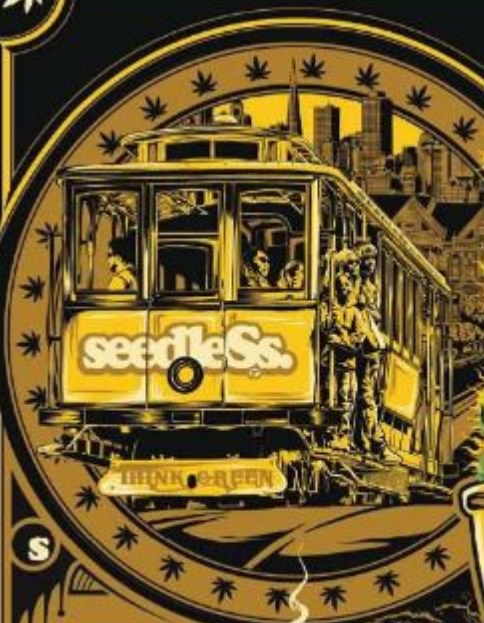
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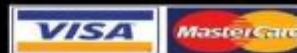
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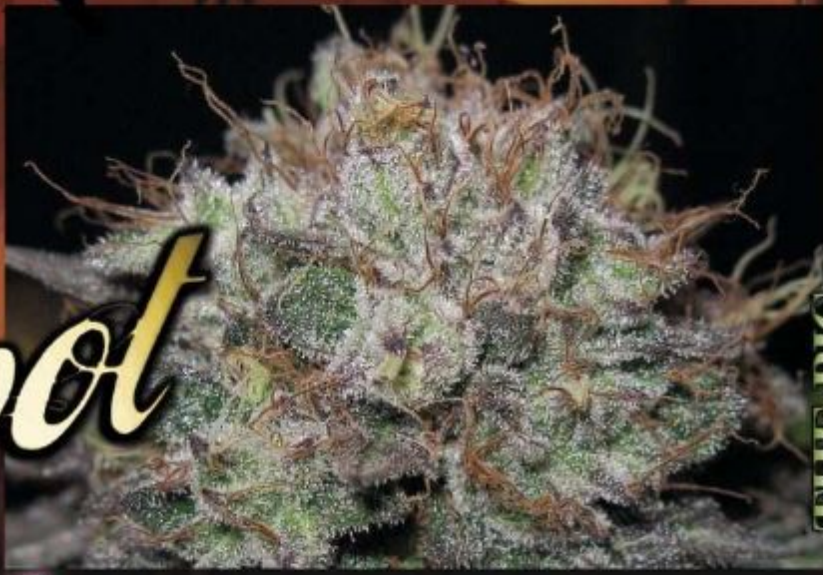
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